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# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 273

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2011

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

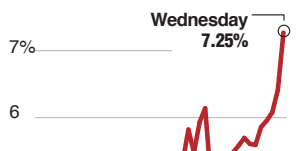
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USCIS district director David Gulick, center, is surrounded by employer representatives seeking answer to their questions right after wrapping up a session on the filing of Form I-129CW, the form used in petitioning foreign workers for a Commonwealth-only worker status, at the American Memorial Park indoor auditorium yesterday. Because many employers have yet to file CW petitions with only days to go before the Nov. 27 deadline, USCIS will hold three more similar sessions next week.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



## DESPERATE FOR JOBS:

# Some foreign workers fall prey to 'sponsorship' jobs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

As the Nov. 27 deadline draws near, foreign workers who are still jobless are falling prey to "sponsorship" jobs offered by some manpower agencies or individuals that require them to pay up to \$1,000 or more to petition them for a Commonwealth-only worker status without guaranteed paid employment.

» **USCIS plans to hold more CW petition session for employers next week**

While unsure if paying \$1,000 or at least half of it is legal, they said they are desperate to get a CW status so they are considering paying it anyway.

Leaders of two foreign worker groups—Dekada Movement president Boni Sagana and Mari-

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## WITHOUT INJUNCTION AGAINST CW FINAL RULE

# 'Exodus of foreign workers will doom islands' economy'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Without a preliminary injunction, thousands of alien workers and their families could leave the CNMI or be forced into removal proceedings, resulting in businesses being disrupted by loss of customers and losing access to an adequate workforce, according to attorney Stephen C. Woodruff.

**See EXODUS on Page 4**



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# Local

## Senate OKs \$10M CUC loan, other bills during Tinian session

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

By a vote of 8-0, the Senate amended and passed yesterday a House bill authorizing the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to borrow \$10 million from the Rhode Island-based Independence Bank so that CUC could improve its water, wastewater, and oil handling services, among other things, to meet the requirements of stipulated orders.

During an afternoon session

on Tinian, senators passed Rep. Stanley Torres' (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 17-205, House Substitute 1, House Draft 1, Senate Substitute 1.

Only eight senators were present. Sen. Luis Crisostimo (Ind-Saipan) is still on medical leave.

Among the Senate amendments is to make sure that CUC's \$10-million loan will still need further review or approval by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, said Senate President Paul Man-

glona (Ind-Rota).

He said the amendments also include giving the CUC executive director authority to act as a board of directors related to the loan, since there is currently no CUC board.

CUC's \$10-million loan from Independence Bank of East Greenwich in Rhode Island will also be used to complete projects on Rota and Tinian.

The bill says the loan proposal has the backing of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The bill goes back to the

House for adoption of the Senate amendments.

The Senate passed three other bills and adopted one resolution.

These include HB 17-36, HS1, which increases penalties for parking in a space reserved for the use of people with disabilities. Because the bill passed without Senate amendments, it now goes to the governor.

Senators also passed without amendment HB 17-72, clarifying the definition of certain taxable commodities, including to-

bacco and soft drinks. The bill goes to the governor.

Senators also amended and passed HB 17-75, HS1, requiring all scuba dive shop operators and marine sport concessionaries to impose a \$1 surcharge per customer who avail of their services.

The Senate also adopted Manglona's Senate Joint Resolution 17-17, allowing the Office of the Public Defender to hire one more fulltime employee.

But Manglona and Senate Vice President Jude Hofsch-

neider (R-Tinian) said they held off action on House Joint Resolution 17-36, urging Congress to recognize the longstanding ancestral rights of persons of Northern Marianas descent with respect to ownership of submerged lands. They said senators wanted to further clarify issues in the resolution.

Manglona and Hofschneider also confirmed that the Senate did not act on the casino bill that the House passed on Tuesday. That bill seeks to legalize casino gambling on Saipan.

## Federal delegation checks out NMI's environmental challenges

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
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REPORTER

Officials from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Pacific Region offices are on island to see how federal funds are being used in the CNMI and to discuss the challenges the islands face when it comes to its natural resources.

CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Arnold Palacios confirmed yesterday that the 11-member delegation, led by Pacific Region One deputy regional director Richard Hannan, arrived Tuesday night following their visit to the neighboring island of Guam.

"We get a lot of funding from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and they're here to see how we're doing, what our challenges are, and the issues they can help with. Moreover, it will help them get a better appreciation of our environment," said Palacios in an interview at his office in Lower Base.

Palacios disclosed that about 95 percent of their operational cost, including personnel expenditures, are financed by federal funding, majority of which come from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration also provides funds to the local Fish & Wildlife office.

"Maintaining the federal



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service deputy regional director Richard R. Hannan, seated left, and other visiting USFWS officials mostly from Oregon and Hawaii, visit Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, seated second from left, at the governor's conference room on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon.

funds we receive is among the top priorities when I came in as a director. It's a resource that has been able to support most, if not all, of our programs," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune*.

While this visit is the first for Hannan, Palacios noted that staffers from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service office in Hawaii visit the CNMI "once or twice a year" to ensure that the local Fish & Wildlife office meets the terms of its federal aid.

"They take time, although brief, to come and see our situation in the CNMI. These folks

are very open and very helpful in providing whatever guidance we ask them without overwhelming us. They are very accommodating in trying to see that the program works for us and the regions and that we're consistent with national standards because they understand the uniqueness of the Commonwealth," he said.

Palacios said the visiting officials toured some of the wildlife conservation areas on island, including the Saipan Upland Mitigation Bank in Marpi intended to safeguard habitats of sensitive species, mitigate the

negative impacts of commercial development, and facilitate rational and sustainable commercial development.

The director said the local DFW went through "uncertainties and instabilities" as it had no director "for an extended period of time."

DFW, which is under the Department of Land and Natural Resources, did not have a director for most of last year when former director Sylvan Igisomar went on a leave of absence and later left the division in September 2010.

Palacios came into office only

in April. He previously served as director from 1984 to 1996.

"That was a challenge," said Palacios, referring to the time he accepted the position anew. "There were a lot of turnovers. But I think we've kind of stabilized since then. A lot of credit goes to our professional staff for their commitment to put things back on track."

Palacios revealed that some of the visiting federal officials will visit Rota while the others will fly to Tinian before heading back to Guam.

"It's very valuable that they visit us to put faces to the names

because we correspond back and forth. It's also important for them to get first-hand experience of the island that they help fund," he added.

The delegation also paid a courtesy visit yesterday to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial. Press secretary Angel Demapan said the governor was "very pleased" about the "meet-and-greet."

"Gov. Fitial thanked them for visiting the CNMI and asked for their continued support and assistance in regards to meeting project requirements under the Endangered Species Act," said Demapan.

## 'Conservative strategy saved MPLT investments from collapse'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Marianas Public Land Trust credits its conservative investment strategy for saving the agency's investments from total collapse since the financial meltdown that hit global markets several years ago.

MPLT board chair Alvaro Santos said the board immediately switched from an aggressive approach to a more conservative strategy in 2006 and has been using that approach since then as a result of

the volatile market.

MPLT's portfolio currently totals \$71 million.

Compared to the NMI Retirement Fund, Santos said that the Fund has been more aggressive in dealing with its portfolio. The Fund currently has over \$264 million in assets.

Despite the huge difference in market value, the Fund is projected to be depleted in just three years, mainly because of the central government's failure for so many years to remit its employer contribution to the Fund.

Santos said that since 2006, the board has been using a conservative strategy by investing in fixed incomes (65 percent) and equities (35 percent). He said the board prepared itself for the "big storm" that would hit all investments.

Santos said the MPLT board changed its investment strategy at the advice of their investment consultant. MPLT's portfolio is being managed by seven money managers who, in turn, are being monitored by Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.

In fiscal year 2011 ending

Sept. 30, MPLT recorded an investment return of 5.9 percent. "Despite the volatile market condition, we did well [last fiscal year] with 5.9 percent return of investment," said Santos, adding that the board is satisfied with the overall performance of the agency.

The Fund is now suing its former investment consultant, Merrill Lynch, for allegedly giving the board bad advice that resulted in significant investment losses. The case is pending in court.

In October 2010, the Fund

board hired Wilshire Associates as its new investment consultant. It immediately recommended the adoption of a conservative strategy called the Glide Path 2013.

Santos said the Fund should have adopted this strategy "way, way back."

"In the case of the retirement program, they have an obligation to disburse every 15 days [to pay for pensions]. Personally, I think that they should have adopted the Glide Path concept much, much earlier. Why? Because they have fixed obligation to their members. The Fund has engaged in a high-yield aggres-

sive market approach. If the market is very volatile, I don't think you will want to venture into that kind of environment and take a chance," said Santos.

MPLT is mandated to remit the revenue it earns from all its investments to the general fund every year. Two weeks ago, it remitted \$2 million as earnings for last fiscal year.

"However, if the economy of the CNMI improves and the central government is able to meet its basic financial obligations, then we can go back to a more aggressive and pro-active market investment strategy," added Santos.



# Ex-DYS staff gets 15 yrs. in prison for sex abuse of minor

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Sixty-two-year-old Pedro Ilo Sablan was slapped with a 15-year prison term yesterday for sexually abusing a 14-year-old girl at the Division of Youth Services shelter where he was then employed.

Sablan pleaded guilty yesterday to a count of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree as part of a plea agreement.

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman, who presided over the case, reluctantly accepted the plea agreement, saying, "This is an egregious case."

The judge noted that the victim is a 14-year-old girl with developmental disabilities who was placed in the DYS shelter to keep her safe from neglect, abuse, or maltreatment, yet it was at the shelter that Sablan sexually abused her.

Wiseman said he recognizes that Sablan has cooperated

with the investigators and has accepted responsibility. At the same time, the plea agreement will spare the victim from public testimony, he said.

"The court will reluctantly accept this plea agreement," he said.

Wiseman underscored the importance of imposing suf-

ficient prison terms on sexual predators so that when they go out of prison, they are no longer capable of committing the same crimes.

He then sentenced Sablan to 30 years in prison, all suspended except 15 years, with credit for time served. Sablan must serve eight years before he is eligible for parole. He will begin serving his sentence on Dec. 12, 2011. That means he will be released at the earliest when he is already 70 years old.

After completing his sentence, Sablan will be placed on 10 years of probation. He was also ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee, and restitution for the victim that will be determined later.

Sablan was also required to register as a sex offender and submit to an examination at the Community Guidance Center for psychological treatment.

Under the agreement, Sablan agreed to cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of colleagues at DYS concerning their criminal activities.

Sablan was accused of having sex with the victim from June to July 2011. He admitted to three or four instances of having sex with a DYS ward while employed there. Investigators later found out that Sablan disabled the security camera to avoid detection of his criminal acts.

The case was prosecuted by assistant attorney general Russell Lorfing.

## PSS: Admin to settle portion of public schools' unpaid CUC bill

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Despite a huge unpaid bill, no public school has been disconnected from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power and water grids, according to Public School System finance director Richard Waldo.

He said PSS was able to avert the disconnections after the central government assured the utilities firm that it will pay for PSS' obligations.

PSS reportedly owes CUC \$3.6 million for power and water supplies to Commonwealth schools. PSS wants to pass on a portion of that debt—\$1.7 million—to the central government to offset the budget allotments for public schools that the government did not turn over to PSS in fiscal year 2011.

Waldo confirmed yesterday that the Fitial administration has already agreed to this proposal, which was stipulated in the memorandum of agreement that PSS recently submitted to CUC.

CUC officials reported to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission that it had rejected the MOA because it did not specify the payment terms of the obligation. A promissory note is now being

prepared by CUC for both PSS and the central government or whoever will be responsible for this obligation.

CUC also pointed out that, in absorbing PSS' \$1.7 million debt, the central government's outstanding obligation to CUC will go up because it still has its own utility debt of \$2.5 million.

Waldo refused to comment on the rejected MOA, saying the administration is now taking care of the system's obligation to CUC.

As for the remaining balance that PSS still has to pay CUC—about \$1.7 million—he said that PSS has yet to make a payment on this.

"We can only make payments for our obligations when we receive the money from the central government," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren disclosed Monday that public schools were supposed to be disconnected last week but the disconnection notices were delayed at the request of the administration, which promised to pay in the next few days.

Warren did not return this reporter's call yesterday for a payment update made by either party.

CUC had \$7.025 million in

total government receivables as of September this year, with PSS and the central government's obligations representing the bulk of the amount. Other autonomous agencies' debt total \$772,511, with NMC's obligation at \$117,285.

CPUC earlier scored CUC officials for its unfair treat-

ment of customers by letting its paying patrons subsidize the shortfall of its delinquent customers and by letting them be reconnected without paying a single penny.

The \$6 million collectibles from PSS and central government translates to a month's supply of fuel for CUC.

## Man gets 30 days for assault

A man was ordered yesterday to spend 30 days in prison for beating up another man in Garapan in August this year.

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Nelson Anson Saimon to one year in prison, all suspended except for 30 days, for assault and battery.

Wiseman ordered the 23-year-old Saimon to start serving his sentence at the Department of Corrections on Jan. 3, 2012, at 8am.

After serving his sentence, Saimon will be placed on probation for two years.

Wiseman said the \$500 fine will be reduced to \$250 if Saimon pays the amount within one year of his release from prison.

The judge also required Saimon to pay \$100 in court costs and probation fees, as well as costs of any medical fees associated with injuries to the victim.

Saimon pleaded guilty to assault and battery as part of a plea agreement.

The agreement stated that Saimon punched Aurelio Rayong in the face several times on

Aug. 11, 2011, for embarrassing their race by eating food found in trash cans at the tourist district in Garapan.

Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that two police officers had responded to Coral Avenue in western Garapan on Aug. 11 at 11:37pm after the Department of Public Safety received a call about four men fighting in front of a hotel.

One officer spotted the victim, Rayong, walking toward a restaurant. His nose and left cheek were bloodied and his lips were swollen.

Police later arrested Alfonso Kintin and Saimon.

Police learned that Kintin had choked and repeatedly punched the victim. Saimon and another suspect joined in beating Rayong.

Pangelinan said that, according to the victim, Kintin, who was drunk, shouted at him that he was an embarrassment to their race because he would always eat food found in trash cans. The suspects and the victim are all Chuukese.

(Ferdie de la Torre)

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Life in Motion



# Senate initiatives to save Fund target public lands income

## » Senate forms panel, urges House to do the same

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Citing the need to stem the “crisis” plaguing the NMI Retirement Fund, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) introduced yesterday two initiatives and one bill seeking to help save the NMI Retirement Fund that include transferring certain public lands to the pension agency.

One more initiative is in the works, requiring the Department of Finance to set aside \$25 million to pay the Fund, to “guarantee” that the pension agency receives a fixed amount each year.

Manglona, at the same time, is forming a Special Committee on Re-

tirement Fund Issues to be chaired by Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) to focus on retirement issues and problems, and make recommendations on how to resolve these issues.

“I will be naming all the committee members by [Thursday]. It will be chaired by Senator Taimanao, and will have three to five members,” Manglona said in a phone interview from Tinian where the Senate held its session yesterday afternoon.

Manglona, in his “dear colleague” letter to lawmakers, encouraged the House to also create its own committee to address Fund issues.



Manglona

Manglona introduced Senate Legislative Initiative 17-13, to authorize the Fund to receive proceeds of existing public land leases for hotels, golf courses, and other large public land leases.

“Once the employer contribution is paid in full, the public lands shall revert to DPL [Department of Public Lands],” he said.

SLI 17-14, meanwhile, authorizes public land interest proceeds, which has been going to the general fund in the past, to be diverted to the Fund until such time that the government debt to the Fund is paid in full.

Manglona also introduced Senate Bill 17-96, which transfers the title of

many vacant government properties with buildings on Capital Hill, Navy Hill, Garapan, Rota, and Tinian to the Fund to generate money.

“The bill intends to transfer such properties to the Retirement Fund to offset some of the government’s employer contribution debt to the Retirement Fund,” Manglona said.

DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta said yesterday he has yet to see these proposals related to public lands.

Manglona also pitched a proposed pension obligation fund that he said is not a long-term solution but “will help the government buy some time.”

The Senate president also urged his fellow lawmakers to give attention to several pending legislation in both House and Senate aimed at helping

the Fund, including temporarily reducing the rebate and remitting the savings to the Fund.

The House could act today on a House bill allowing non-retired members of the Fund to withdraw their contributions from the pension agency without severance of employment or penalties.

The Fund currently has some 2,940 retirees and beneficiaries, and 2,996 active employees, in addition to thousands of family members affected by the Fund’s solvency.

Experts earlier said that the Fund could only have a three-year lifespan considering its assets, liabilities, unfunded liabilities, and lack of government employer contribution payments, among other things.

## SOME

From Page 1

anas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. president Rene Reyes—said yesterday that they want to bring this matter to the attention of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, to prevent foreigners desperate for jobs from being duped by unscrupulous individuals or agencies.

“We have members who are now asking whether it’s allowed by law for them to pay fees for their CW petition, and these people are now afraid to come out because it may make it more difficult for them to find a job,” said Sagana.

He said some of their members are being asked by manpower agencies to pay up to \$1,000, so that they could be petitioned for a CW status.

A CW petition requires the employer to pay for the \$325 application fee. The employer is also required to pay for the mandatory CNMI education funding fee of \$150 per beneficiary.

USCIS district director David Gulick said the final worker regulations are clear that the employer—not the employee—should pay for the \$325 application fee and the \$150 education funding fee.

“Any biometrics fee or other fees, [including] the fee for an application for a spouse as a dependent, can be paid by the [employee],” he said.

Gulick said employers are not supposed to collect money from workers to pay for the application fee or the education fee.

“Their employer...should be the one who would have to pay those fees. To collect them from the employees is a violation of the regulations,” he said. “If they’re saying they need to pay advance for the application fees, if you’re talking about employment-based application, then the workers should be aware that that’s not allowed under most of our immigration categories.”

CW petitions that are filed by employers who are found to have asked their employees to pay for the fees would likely be denied.

Sagana said that manpower agencies are asking for payment from nonresidents without guaranteeing the nonresidents that they will indeed work and get paid as a house worker or a maintenance worker, for example.

He said some manpower agencies approached by nonresidents even

asked nonresidents to pay the manpower agency a certain amount which later on would “serve” as their own salary if the agency does not find a household or business that will avail of their service.

“If this is the case, it’s going back to the days when there were a lot of sponsorship jobs,” Sagana told *Saipan Tribune*.

Gulick, when asked about the legitimate fees that manpower agencies can charge nonresidents, said: “All I can say is they’re not allowed to collect the petition fee and the CNMI education fee from the prospective employee.”

Reyes, president of MAHAL and also manager at manpower agency Gold Crown, said there have been many instances wherein nonresidents approach their manpower agency, hoping that they could file a CW petition for them.

Reyes said they have been telling these nonresident house workers, for example, that it will be better if their current employers are the ones to approach their manpower agency rather than the worker themselves.

He said Gold Crown does not ask nonresidents to pay for the CW application fee and the education fee. But he said employers wanting to hire from the manpower agency are also charged \$150 for documentation fee, in addition to expenses related to CW petition.

As of Nov. 10, less than 1,000 foreign workers have so far been petitioned by CNMI employers for a CW status.

### More USCIS sessions

Because a tiny fraction of the estimated 13,399 foreign workers in the CNMI who are “potentially eligible” for CW status have so far been petitioned by employers, USCIS has been beefing up its sessions for employers in filing Form I-129CW.

As of Nov. 10, a total of 368 CW status petitions for 704 beneficiaries have been filed by 100 employers, USCIS said.

Gulick wrapped up yesterday the third day of a USCIS session for employers. The American Memorial Park indoor auditorium was again filled to capacity. Between Monday and Wednesday, the USCIS sessions covered some 300 employers or employer representatives.

But because many employers have yet to file Form I-129CW for their foreign workers, Gulick said USCIS

will hold three more similar sessions next week. The schedule is still tentative—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Gulick said employers should wait for the announcement.

“We want to give everybody a chance,” he said.

Employers interviewed yesterday said after attending the USCIS session, they will be more prepared to file the CW petitions for their foreign workers.

Marj Alamil, an employee at Success Auto Shop, said she was able to get a lot of clarification on filing the Form I-129CW. She said her employer plans to file the petitions soon.

Another employer representative who attended the session said that their foreign worker employees had wanted to have their CW petitions filed weeks back but the management decided to hold off filing the petitions until close to the Nov. 27 deadline.

“We don’t really know the reason, but we’re hoping they will petition us soon,” the employee said.

Ernie Lacorte, chief financial officer at Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic, said they will be filing the CW petitions this week or on Monday. Lacorte attended the USCIS sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday to get more clarifications on the proper filing procedures.

Gulick reminded employers to read the instructions, and make sure the fees are correct.

### Rejection versus denial

Gulick said 12 of the CW petitions submitted were rejected. A rejection is different from denial of the application.

He said rejection means that USCIS did not yet accept the petition officially, but the employer needs to correct something then submit the corrected application.

“It’s not considered as filed under the regulations. A denial is when we’ve accepted your application and we made a decision and adjudication on the merits of the case,” he said, adding that he has no data yet whether there have been any denials so far.

The reasons for the rejection of the 12 petitions included the use of an old version of the form, submission of an incorrect fee, one submitted too much money while one case had no money at all, and another one had an altered check.

USCIS hopes that CNMI employers will be able to avoid the same mistakes so that their CW petitions will not suffer the same fate.

## EXODUS

From Page 1

In a legal brief he submitted yesterday to the U.S. District Court for the NMI to support a motion for preliminary injunction, Woodruff said the quality of life for the CNMI as a whole could deteriorate substantially due to the loss of part-time laborers on which households and businesses depend, declining government revenues, and the loss of a free labor market and its benefits.

Woodruff asked the court to prevent the Department of Homeland Security for 180 days—about six months—from treating any alien legally present in the CNMI on Nov. 27, 2009, as lacking “admitted or paroled” status, removable, or unlawfully present in the U.S.

He also asked the court to prevent DHS for 180 days from enforcing the Nov. 28, 2011, cut-off for CW petitions, and also from treating any alien authorized to work in the CNMI on Nov. 27, 2009, as not being authorized for employment.

Woodruff is counsel for a group of individuals that is suing to stop federal officials from enforcing the CNMI-only Transitional Worker final rule on Nov. 28, 2011.

On Tuesday, Woodruff also explained to the court his failure to file a briefing or exhibits in support of the motion for preliminary injunction by the Monday deadline, citing computer problems, including repeated unexplained crashes, programs not responding, and “agonizingly slow” performance.

### Defective

Woodruff said the CW final rule is both substantially and procedurally defective.

He cited that this is not the first time DHS has been in court facing a possible injunction relating to the CW rule.

He pointed out that DHS waited 22 months from the time the interim final rule was suspended before finally promulgating the current rule, which in most respects is virtually identical to the interim final rule published two years earlier.

“Judge [Paul] Friedman’s description from two years ago aptly captures the 51-day quandary faced by legal alien workers and their employers today. This short time period to obtain a federally recognized nonimmigrant status is likewise per se unreasonable,” Woodruff said.

Friedman is a U.S. District Court

for the District of Columbia who, in November 2009, issued a preliminary injunction that stopped the federal government from implementing the interim final rule on the CNMI transitional worker program on Nov. 28, 2009.

In that ruling, Friedman agreed with the CNMI government that DHS has no reasonable basis for publishing the interim rule without giving the CNMI and other stakeholders time to comment, as required under the Administrative Procedure Act.

Woodruff said the entire rule is substantially deficient in that it fails to conform with the language and intent of Congress by restoring a system “that effectively indentures the alien worker” to an employer.

“DHS thus inadvertently but effectively is reviving the very evils Congress set out to destroy. This is apparently because DHS never understood those evils or how they were institutionalized by the CNMI regime,” he said.

Congress, Woodruff said, expressly mandated a system in which alien workers could protect themselves against abuse and exploitation by offering their labor in a free and open market for the period of time authorized.

“It is for this reason that Congress explicitly provided that aliens holding CNMI-only nonimmigrant transitional worker status ‘shall be permitted to transfer between employers in the Commonwealth during the period of such alien’s authorized stay therein.’”

Woodruff said that DHS confused the reference to “permits” with the “ignominious old CNMI system of permits for workers and used the failed CNMI system (that Congress expressly abrogated)” as its model.

“Accordingly, the final rule cannot stand substantively and must be modified to conform with the statutory text and intent of Congress,” Woodruff said.

He said enormous confusion and uncertainty now pervades the community. “Unscrupulous individuals have begun to take advantage of the situation to exploit alien workers.”

Woodruff said thousands of alien workers literally face abrupt loss of immigration status with no reasonable and realistic means of obtaining a new status.

“An exodus of large numbers of aliens costs the economy of both workers and consumers, threatening an even deeper downward spiral,” he said.



# House OKs bill raising jail term for crimes vs tourists

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed yesterday a bill that increases the mandatory minimum jail term for those who commit crimes against tourists or crimes committed within 1,000 feet of tourist sites. It took some two hours of discussions on a major amendment before members eventually adopted the bill.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) offered an amendment to Rep. Ray Basa's

(Cov-Saipan) House Bill 17-198, which, in essence, replaced Basa's bill with the contents of Villagomez's H.B. 17-236.

Basa's bill initially sought to impose mandatory sentences for conviction of a crime committed against tourists, while Villagomez's original bill sought to strengthen provisions regarding crimes that occur within 1,000 feet of tourist sites and recreational areas by establishing higher minimum mandatory sentences.

HB 17-198, House Draft 2

eventually passed the House by a vote of 15-0, with both Basa and Villagomez as authors.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) offered a subsidiary amendment removing the 1,000 feet threshold, but this was narrowly defeated by a vote of 8-7.

Under the new bill, any person convicted of a crime against a person or property and that crime was committed within 1,000 feet of a tourist site, beach, monument, park, golf course, or recreational area, the court will increase the mandatory mini-

mum jail term provided for the charge to one-half of the maximum term allowed under the law or five years, whichever is more, without the possibility of parole during the specific period.

The CNMI now solely depends on tourism to fuel its economy, after the demise of

the garment industry, and lawmakers said addressing crimes should be a priority.

"Existing statutes regarding theft and robbery are not serving to deter violent crimes at tourist and recreation sites. Presently, there are no minimum mandatory penalties for crimes in-

volving tourists or locals who are particularly vulnerable to criminals in remote and unpopulated areas far from police or security guards and close to escape routes in the jungle," the bill states.

The bill now goes to the Senate.

The House went into recess until this morning to act on other pieces of legislation.

## Aetna rate hike plan under scrutiny

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The rate hike proposal of insurance carrier Aetna Global is being scrutinized by both the CNMI Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to see if it meets the standards of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Acting Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar said that Aetna's rate hike proposal has already been turned in to the federal agency for review and assessment and a response is expected very soon.

Any insurance carrier in the Commonwealth that wants to increase their rates has to go through Commerce's Insurance Commission Office for review and approval.

Igisomar described Aetna's proposed new rates as "high," prompting Commerce to seek the federal government's review and determination to make sure it is acceptable and allowable.

"The rate proposals of Aetna may be incompliant with the allowable increase [under PPACA]. I cannot discuss the

rates they've presented but I do know that it will significantly impact the pocket of our consumers currently covered by Aetna," he said.

Aetna Global's contract as the Fund's insurance carrier for its members was supposed to expire on Nov. 1. Its renewal is contingent on two options, both with increases in current rates.

However, as the central government has yet to decide on which option to take, Aetna decided to postpone its contract's renewal to January 2012. The Group Health and Life Insurance Program, GHLIP, is a government program being handled by the Fund administrator.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, or PPACA, is a U.S. federal statute that reforms certain aspects of the private health insurance industry and public health insurance programs, increases insurance cov-

erage of pre-existing conditions, and expands access to insurance to over 30 million Americans.

According to press secretary Angel Demapan, the Fitial administration and the Fund are scheduled to meet today to discuss Aetna's proposal. He declined to comment further on the matter.

Igisomar, who is also the Fund board chairman, said the carrier's proposal is under negotiation.

Saipan Tribune learned that Aetna is the only carrier willing to handle the insurance plan for retirees and active government employees.

The Fund in October 2010 approved the carrier's proposal to increase members' health insurance premiums by 33 percent. Aetna Global threatened last year to terminate the plan if the government fails to reach a decision.

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# Babauta vows to finish 4-year term as health corporation CEO

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta has quashed rumors that he is planning to run for delegate in November next year, saying he is committed to finishing his four-year term at the helm of the newly formed organization.

In fact, Babauta, a former governor and resident representative to Washington, D.C., said he is setting aside his political plans due to his commitments with the health corporation.

Babauta recently stepped down as CNMI Republican Party president to focus on the healthcare corporation.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres told *Saipan Tribune* that a formal contract has

yet to be executed for the new CEO because Babauta has more pressing matters to attend to at the public hospital. This means his salary has also yet to be set by the board.

Babauta confirmed this. "Honestly, I don't have a contract yet. That's the truth. I am not complaining. We're focused on the hospital right now and I am glad that I have a chairman and the board that is engaged seriously in this task," he said.

According to Babauta, he accepted the position so he could continue serving the people of the Commonwealth.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that former Public Health secretary

Joseph Kevin Villagomez was paid \$60,000 per annum. Torres said that no final amount has been set for Babauta.

## Demur on delegate candidacy

Babauta was coy when asked about his possible candidacy for the U.S. delegate position next year, refusing to directly answer the question and merely giving this reply: "When the chairman and I feel that we've met the accomplishments and the missions that we set out here—to improve the delivery of healthcare services to patients—maybe that's the time you can come back and ask me the same question."



Babauta

Meantime, *Saipan Tribune* learned that as a result of the corporation takeover on Oct. 1, some positions have been eliminated and dissolved, including that of the DPH secretary, which was previously occupied by Villagomez.

Other positions that were eliminated are the deputy secretary for public health administration that was previously occupied by John Tagabuel in an acting capacity and public health acting deputy secretary for hospital administration, previously occupied by Esther Muna, also in an acting capacity.

Both Tagabuel and Muña went back to their original posts. Tagabuel is the Bureau of Environmental Health director, while Muña is the hospital's

finance department head. Villagomez, meantime, has yet to report to the Community Guidance Center where he previously worked before becoming the DPH secretary.

Torres refused to answer questions about the former secretary.

The corporation board is looking at a \$25-million budget this fiscal year.

## Sabalu Farmers Market readies for cooperative dev't workshop

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market Inc., after being named the recipient of a federal grant last month, now awaits the schedule of a workshop that would familiarize them with the do's and don'ts of the grant.

Vice president Isidoro T. Cabrera said yesterday that the SSFM, Inc., a registered non-profit corporation organized to promote and improve the agriculture industry in the CNMI, was named the recipient of a \$46,560.50 technical assistance grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs.

The announcement was made during the CNMI U.S. Eligible Workers Job Expo organized last month by the CNMI Department of Commerce, which administers the grant locally.

"We're just waiting for the schedule of the workshop to familiarize ourselves with the use of the technical assistance grant, to know what's allowed and not allowed under the grant," Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said the grant will be used to hire off-island consultants who have "the necessary and proven background in cooperative development."

These consultants, he said, will "provide training for members on the various aspects of starting up, operating, and sustaining a marketing cooperative."

About 60 percent of the grant—\$27,850—will be used to fly in and accom-

modate the two trainers from the California Center for Cooperative Development.

The training on Saipan, slated for April 2012, will focus primarily on the fundamentals of the cooperative model, cooperative governance and strategic planning, cooperative operating procedures, and finances.

"Additionally, training participants will be tasked to develop a cooperative development manual as one of the tangible outcomes of these trainings for use by those interested in organizing cooperatives in the future within the region," he said.

Cabrera, who will serve as project manager and expenditure authority, wrote in their grant application that cooperatives "have a very disappointing history" in the CNMI.

"The last known cooperative to operate in the CNMI closed down in 1996 and other recent attempts to organize one have been unsuccessful," he said. "By providing SSFM, Inc. members with the proper understanding and knowledge of marketing cooperatives, a strong foundation is established to sustain an organization that will continue to benefit its members for the foreseeable future unmatched by its predecessors."

Cabrera said they hope to "increase the knowledge base" of their participants, about 120 individuals.

"SSFM, Inc. will work with counterparts [on] Tinian and Rota to assist with the start-up or strengthening of new or ongoing cooperatives," he added.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Parent Take Over Day at Kagman High today

The students, teachers and staff of Kagman High School is inviting the community to attend the first ever PSS-wide Parent Take Over Day today, Nov. 17, 2011. Parents are invited to help teach classes or shadow your child on this day. Parents may also teach about special talents or skills they have such as weaving, carpentry or music. Parents who attend this event will be earning points for their child's class of the year title. For more information, call 237-3840 or email kagmanhs@gmail.com. (PR)

### Kagman High report cards out today

Report cards will be sent home with students today, Nov. 17, 2011. Progress reporting is where parents are given an update on how a student is doing and what they may need to do to improve. By the time report cards are done, grades cannot be changed. For more information, contact 237-3840 or kagmanhs@gmail.com. (PR)

### SSHS report cards out today

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students, term 1 report cards are scheduled to be picked up today, Nov. 17, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm at the counseling office. All students will be released at 1:05pm. (PR)

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- Furnished unit w/ balcony
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- On-duty security guard at night
- On-site maintenance
- Parking space
- Swimming pool

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SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT



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YOUNGS BUILDING

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- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Free moving-service
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Parking space

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# Collateral sought on \$500K loan to Arctic Circle Air

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Marianas Public Land Trust wants to have a "collateral" for the \$500,000 loan it will provide to Arctic Circle Air to establish air cargo service between the CNMI and Guam.

"In our terms and conditions, we have outlined what kind of collateral we want such as some assets like aircraft for example and other assets the company may have, which can backup the loan should it not succeed," MPLT board chair Alvaro Santos told

## Crop insurance program seeks NMI applicants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency announced yesterday the availability of the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for the 2012 crop year. This program provides coverage in the event of a natural disaster for all fruit and vegetable crops not covered by traditional crop insurance. A minimum administrative fee of \$250 per crop, not to exceed \$750 per producer administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,850 per producer with farming interest in multiple counties will be assessed. Administrative fee will only be accepted by personal check, bank check, or money order.

USDA FSA is currently accepting applications through Dec. 1, 2011, for all fruit and vegetable crops. For more information call 300-8551. (USDA)

reporters after his presentation at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting on Tuesday.

The board approved last month the \$500,000 loan for Arctic Circle Air, the brainchild of businessman Anthony Pellegrino, to be paid in 10 years at 7.5 percent interest.

Santos, in his presentation at the Rotary, said that Arctic Circle Air "will increase agricultural production from the CNMI."

"The company has done a lot of research from the market down in Guam, not only in the

military but other market outlets... they're willing to take the risk," he told Rotarians.

Santos disclosed that the Arctic Circle Air venture is one of three proposals that they are handling in their newly established diversified local investment program, which aims to either provide loans or invest at the local level to boost the CNMI's economic situation.

The other two proposals are the \$13-million Small Business Credit Initiative under the Commonwealth Development

Authority and the \$2-million electronic health record system project for the Commonwealth Health Center.

Santos said the approval of the loan required Arctic Circle Air to "satisfy the terms and conditions that we offered them."

"If Arctic Circle Air did not meet the MPLT conditions and terms, they have to look for other avenues like the CDA and an independent bank to get the capitalization," noted Santos. "I hope that we could help them for this to materialize."



## DIABETES DAY

House Speaker Eli Cabrera, right, and Rep. Joseph Palacios, second right, join the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program staff during the 2nd Annual World Diabetes Day Sunset Vigil at the Ada Gym Track & Field on Nov. 14. The sunset vigil marked the 2nd Annual World Diabetes Day celebration in the CNMI. The participants walked around the track oval four times or an equivalent of 1 mile.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

## GUAM NEWS

### Man gets 27 months for gun possession

Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood, District Court of Guam, has sentenced Eric I. Manibusan to a total of 27 months federal incarceration following his conviction of felon in possession of a firearm.

According to a statement issued by U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, Manibusan pleaded guilty on Dec. 23, 2010.

Upon release from imprisonment, Manibusan will be on supervised release for three years. Manibusan was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Services.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Rostta San Nicolas prosecuted the case for the government and was assisted by special agents from Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. (USAO)

### USDA awards Guam \$50K for OTEC feasibility study

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development has awarded the Ocean Thermal Energy Corp. \$50,000 in federal financial assistance that will be used

to promote the development of renewable energy systems.

The Rural Development grant will assist the Ocean Thermal Energy Corp. to conduct a feasibility study to determine the technical and economical practicality of building and operating an Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion, or OTEC, plant in Guam.

"The federal grant... is a step toward promoting renewable energy [in] Guam," said Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday. "It is important that Guam continue to invest in sustainable energy technologies in our community. The feasibility study... will explore [OTEC] as a renewable energy alternative for Guam. OTEC has great potential for our island and it is important that it is explored as an economic alternative to fossil fuels."

### Jury returns guilty verdicts vs Fresnoza

After a six-day jury trial in criminal case *U.S. vs. Henry Fresnoza*, the defendant was found guilty of conspiracy to distribute crystal meth, conspiracy to import crystal meth and four counts of money laundering. Fresnoza was found not guilty of four money

laundering counts.

The 12-count indictment was filed on June 1, 2011.

Fresnoza faces a mandatory minimum prison term of 20 years to life, and fines of up to \$20 million, according to Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the district of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The trial was conducted by assistant U.S. attorney Karon V. Johnson, with the assistance of special agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Section, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. Credit is also given to the Guam police department for their assistance in this investigation. (USAO)

### Bordallo responds to Navy prep of supplemental EIS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo issued yesterday the following statement regarding Department of the Navy's intent to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed live firing range complex on Guam to support the

Marine Corps relocation. The Navy is litigating the manner in which it conducted the "Guam and CNMI Military Relocation Environmental Impact Statement" regarding its adherence to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, specifically pertaining to the preferred site location for a live-fire training range in the Pāgat area.

"The Navy is taking a prudent step in preparing a supplemental environmental impact statement to better address the ongoing concerns in our community regarding the preferred location for the firing range," said Bordallo. "I look forward to working with the Navy, the Marine Corps, as well as stakeholders and leaders on Guam to look at alternative locations for the proposed firing range, and I will urge the Navy to consider alternative locations that were proposed by local leaders and stakeholders during public forums last year on the EIS. I will also work with the Navy and local leaders to ensure that this process is open and transparent and that our community is given the opportunity to provide input before a Record of Decision is developed." (PR)

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 17, 1999

### Senate to press for budget approval

Senators have pledged not to call sine die to go into a long recess ahead of the inaugural of the 12th Legislature next January until after the proposed FY 2000 budget is passed and signed by the governor. Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes said he would press passage of the \$206 million spending package to ensure that their concerns, such as scholarship and medical referral programs, are included in the anticipated expenditures of the government for the next nine months. "We will pursue it and we will not call sine die unless we have approved the budget," he said in an interview. Senate President Paul A. Manglona also supported the move, noting that they will try to have the budget in place before the start of the second quarter of FY 2000 this January.

### CPA to seek bond rating

Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas will meet with two international rating agencies next month to have its \$33 million seaport bond rated. Fitch IBCA and Standard and Poor's earlier failed to give any rating to the seaport bond. But Fitch gave the \$20 million airport bond a Triple BBB minus rating. CPA hopes to get the seaport bond rating between now and March 2000. Salas said the rating will boost the credibility of the ports authority and the Commonwealth in the financial community as well as reduce the interest rate. He will be accompanied by airport committee chairman Roman S. Tudela in the trip.

Nov. 17, 2003

### CUC admits existence of MOA but...

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chairman Herman P. Sablan has admitted the existence of a Memorandum of Agreement with a Korean firm on desalination project prior to solicitation, but said that it had been nullified when the utility firm issued a Request for Proposal over a month ago. In an interview, Sablan said that an MOA was signed with Taekwang Heavy Industries because no other companies were interested in the project. "When they first introduced the unsolicited proposal, the board made that decision, but then after that, other companies came in wanting to participate so we disregarded the MOA and proceeded with an RFP," said Sablan.

### Diabetes coalition formed in CNMI

The much-awaited formation of an organization to fight diabetes in the CNMI is finally set with today's launching of the Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition or CDC. The CDC, according to its organizers, will be a division within Ayuda Network, a local nonprofit humanitarian group. Today's launching will be held at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres in Garapan. CDC organizers include Torres, Ayuda Network's Konrad Reyes, retired nurse Gregg Fital, and Department of Health's diabetes prevention program coordinator Lynn Tenorio. Fital, in an earlier interview said the group aims to promote public outreaches and education, and provide services and care for patients. "We want to bring the number of cases down. We need to contain it, if not totally eradicate it in the CNMI."

Nov. 17, 2004

### Fital insists on independent audit of Azmar

House Speaker Benigno R. Fital reiterated his call yesterday for the Marianas Public Lands Authority to do an audit of Azmar International's finances amid talks of its mining permit application approval. He said the audit must be done by a third party to ensure neutrality but its cost should be shouldered by Azmar. "I must insist, at the very least, that MPLA retain an independent accounting firm to audit Azmar's submitted financial statement so that Azmar's financial capability can be independently verified by a neutral third party at Azmar's expense," said Fital in a Nov. 16 letter to MPLA chair Ana Demapan-Castro.

### House panel wary of 'delinquent' scholars

The House budget panel aims to keep the CNMI Scholarship Office's funding but it wants a guarantee that such amount would be spent only for individuals who want to return and work in the CNMI. "We support their budget request but we want the Scholarship Office to protect the funding because we're concerned about scholars not coming back to work in the Commonwealth," said House majority floor leader Oscar M. Babauta.



# MPLT property sits idle as board postpones building project

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A property on Capital Hill purchased by the Marianas Public Lands Trust has been sitting idle for years and has not been earning revenue for the government.

MPLT bought a 4,000-square

## 2010 economic reviews for FSM and Marshalls

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—The Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has released Fiscal Year 2010 Economic Reviews for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Since 2006, OIA has provided funding to support the annual development of these reviews, which are prepared by the Graduate School USA's Pacific Islands Training Initiative, in conjunction with the governments of both countries.

"Garnering a better understanding of the economies of the Pacific, especially freely-associated states like the FSM and RMI, which receive annual Compact funding from the United States, is critically important," said Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta. "With only eleven years of financial assistance remaining under the current terms of the FSM and RMI Compacts of Free Association, it is remains imperative for the leaders of both countries to be able to make informed decisions and track progress towards economic advancement and budgetary self-reliance—the stated goals of the Compacts."

The FSM and RMI FY2010 Economic Reviews include updates to indicators such as GDP, GDP per capita, employment, inflation, external debt ratios, consolidated revenues and expenditures and outmigration estimates. In addition, the FY2010 Reviews also include a preliminary medium-term economic framework, which provides a three-year economic forecast for both countries.

Copies of the FY2010 Economic Reviews, Economic Summaries, and Statistical Appendices in both Adobe Acrobat and Microsoft Excel formats, are available online at <http://econ.pitviti.org>. (*OIA*)



## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

This special happy birthday shoutout goes to Auntie Polly Anne Sablan! God bless you on this special day. We love you.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

meter land on Capital Hill in 2007 for a planned commercial building where it will also hold its permanent business office.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that MPLT paid \$200,000 for the property.

MPLT chair Alvaro Santos explained Tuesday that the project was put on hold due to the financial challenges being experienced by the agency since 2007.

He assured, though, that the MPLT board is still firm in its desire to build a commercial building on the acquired space. As to when that will happen, he could not say.

"We bought the land in 2007. We sent out [a request for proposals] for the architectural and engineering designs and we had responders. We also conducted the interviews and we were getting into the

works...but the financial crisis was approaching so we put everything on hold," he said.

He estimates MPLT to need \$700,000 to build the commercial building.

Santos believes that pushing through with the project amid difficult times will only result in a significant loss for MPLT's earning ability.

"If we lose money, how can we fulfill our obligation to the central government?" he asked.

MPLT is a semi-autonomous agency that receives land lease payments on government property. These payments must be invested and all returns and earnings are remitted to the general fund. As of Sept. 30, 2011, its portfolio—invested in fixed income and equities—was valued at \$71 million.

MPLT currently occupies

space on Capital Hill where the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is assigned an office.

Because of this, Santos said the board has decided to lease space at the Retirement Fund building starting Dec. 1, for which it will pay about \$15,000 a year. He thinks this is a pittance compared to spending \$700,000 for the construction of a commercial building.

"It is still cost-effective because we will only be renting the space for like \$15,000 a year as opposed to capital outlay of

\$700,000," he said.

The board still has to decide, however, whether to go ahead with moving to the Fund building due to some "stringent conditions" in the lease agreement being proposed by the NMI Retirement Fund, Santos said.

"If they will stick to those terms [in the draft lease proposal], maybe we may have to explore other avenues because in the end, it will cost us a lot more than what we expected and we don't want that to happen," he said.

Santos did not disclose these stringent conditions.

Fund board chair Sixto Igisomar told *Saipan Tribune* Tuesday that the draft lease agreement contains the same provisions as that of the former tenant, the Public School System. He said the board is willing to work with the MPLT to "iron out" these issues.

Both Fund and MPLT chairs said there is no plan at this time to sell or buy the Fund building, which has an estimated value of \$3.4 million some five years ago.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Rotary Club president Pete Igitol, right, receives the flag from Narashino-Chuo Rotary Club director Takeda-san during a general membership meeting at the Hyatt Regency Club on Tuesday.

Four members of the Rotary Club of Narashino-Chuo from Japan, including one Rotary Ann, are on island to enjoy Saipan's golfing terrain.

The visiting Rotarians attended the general membership meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan at the Hyatt Regency on Tuesday.

Saipan Rotarian Ken Kato

served as interpreter for the visiting group, which arrived on Sunday.

The visiting group was led by past president Naohiro Nakano, who has previously visited Saipan. The rest of the group are on island for the first time.

Kato said the Rotary Club of Narashino-Chuo, located "be-

tween the Narita Airport and Tokyo" and is nearby Tokyo Disneyland, was founded in 1976 and has 46 members, six of whom are females.

Takeda-san, Club Services director for the Rotary Club of Narashino-Chuo, presented during the meeting their flag to Rotary Club of Saipan president Pete Igitol. (*Clarissa V. David*)

## Rotary to raise funds anew with sale of Christmas CD

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

To boost its fundraising efforts, the Rotary Club of Saipan will be selling the remainder of the first Christmas CDs it produced last year.

Past president and current International Service director Glen Perez said they still have 650 copies of Christmas in the Marianas, which features 15 original and cover holiday songs in Chamorro, Carolinian, and English performed by artists from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam.

The Rotary Club of Saipan released a total of 2,000 copies of the Christmas CD, which were pressed in the Philippines and sold last

year at \$15 each.

Secretary Laila Boyer said at their general membership meeting on Tuesday that they will sell the remaining copies for \$10 apiece.

"By the power vested by the president, he unilaterally gave us the responsibility to sell the remaining Christmas CDs we have," said Boyer, adding that the proceeds will go "directly to our account."

Boyer noted that they will distribute 10 CDs to each Rotarian who will be required to sell them.

To purchase the CD, contact any of the Rotarians, email [saipanrotary@gmail.com](mailto:saipanrotary@gmail.com) or place your order through the Rotary Club's Facebook page.

## POI Aviation Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

**Aircraft Service Agent**  
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Performs interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Knowledgeable in use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Applications can be obtained at the POI Aviation Office at the Continental Cargo Building at the airport. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 21, 2011. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Monday, November 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
  - a. USDA RD SUTA Update
- IV. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM**
  - a. Updates on NMHC-Owned Properties through Auction
  - b. Loan Status Reports by Programs / Delinquency & Litigation Report
- V. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**
  - a. CDBG Update
- VI. PROGRAM & HOUSING**
  - a. Utility Allowance Update
  - b. Saipan Section 8 & Voucher Program Status Report
- VII. FISCAL AFFAIRS**
  - a. FY 2012 Financial Statement as of 10/31/2011
- VIII. FIELD REPORT**
  - a. Tinian Field Office Reports – Section 8 & Voucher Program Status Report
  - b. Rota Field Office Reports – Section 8 & Voucher Program Status Report
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- X. OLD BUSINESS**
  - a. Lease-To-Own of NMHC Properties
  - b. Bank/Pacific Status Report
  - c. FY 2010 Audit Financial Status Report
  - d. Request For Proposal For Garapan Annex
  - e. Financial & Compliance Audit FY 2011 & FY 2012 Intend to Award Update
- XI. OTHER MATTERS**
- XII. ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE  
Chairwoman of the Board

## Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, December 01, 2011 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

- A. Preliminary Matters**
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of November 3, 2011 minutes
  5. Public Comments
- B. Public Hearings**
  1. None
- C. Communications/ Reports**
- D. Old Business.**
  1. None
- E. New Business.**
  1. Update on the proposed Saipan Zoning Law of 2011
  2. Office operations report
- F. Executive (Closed) Session.**
- G. Miscellaneous:** Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese T. Ogomoro, Acting Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XXI, Issue No. 273Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Arab League stand puts Syria on notice—finally

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The Arab League's near-unanimous decision last week to suspend Syria's membership marks a major turning point in international efforts to isolate President Bashar Assad's brutal dictatorship. Rarely has the 22-member Arab League turned against Syria, long revered as a "front-line state" confronting Israel and, therefore, seemingly exempt from the organization's criticism.

The Arab League has taken a definitive stand, putting respect for basic human rights above the epic struggle against Israel. The Assad family dictatorship, responsible for harsh repression and tens of thousands of deaths since the 1980s, has zero credibility when it points the finger of blame at the U.S. and Israel for its own people's suffering. The Arab world now concurs with most civilized nations that it's time for this dictatorship to go.

Jordan's King Abdullah, whose own monarchical rule is under challenge, declared Monday that Assad has lost any semblance of legitimacy as the death toll from a crackdown on anti-dictatorship protesters has reached an estimated 3,500. "I believe, if I were in his shoes, I would step down," the king told the BBC.

Assad now certainly recognizes the extent of international resolve to force a transition to democratic rule. His government allowed workers off Sunday so they could join protests attacking the Damascus embassies of Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and France.

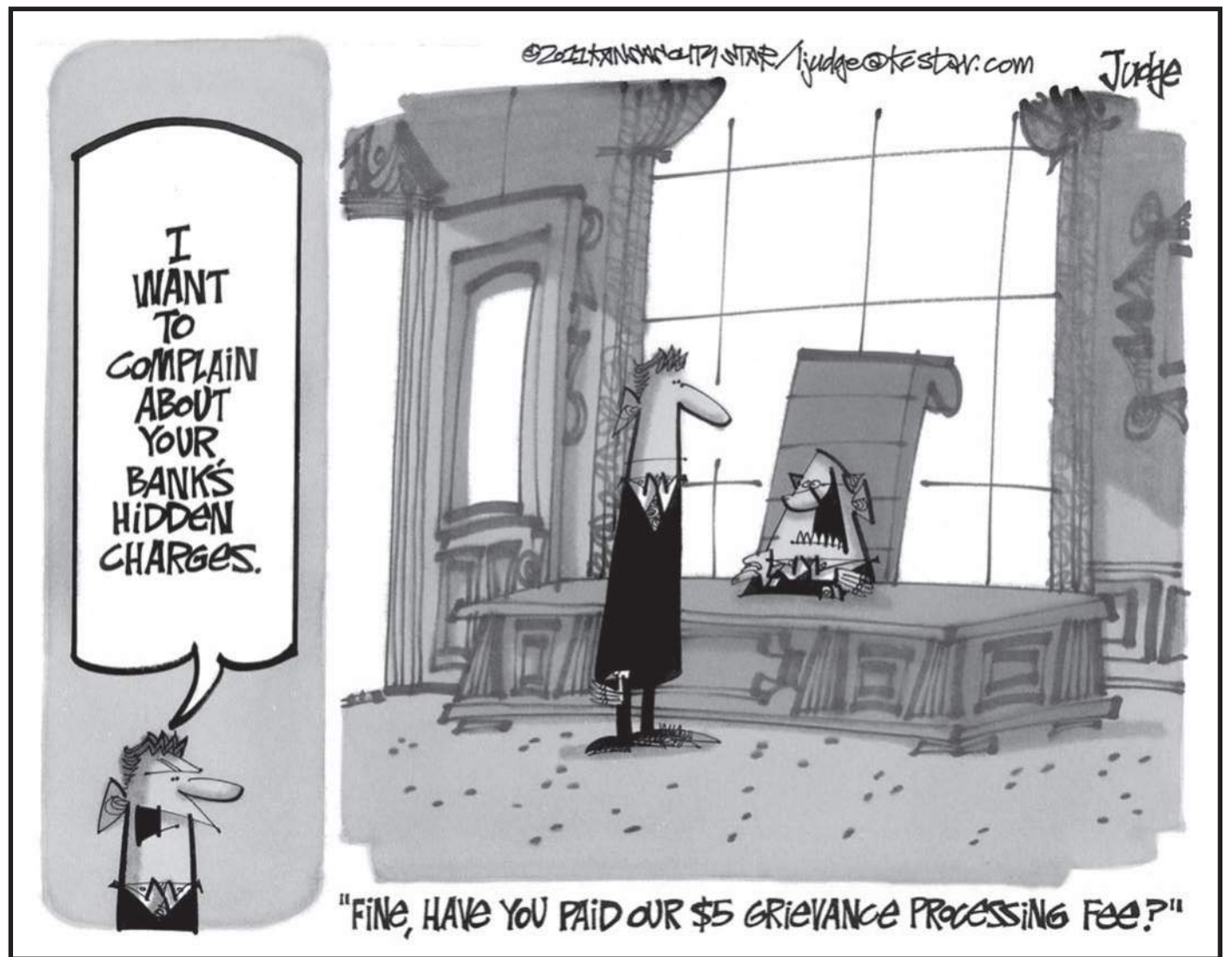
Unsurprisingly, Syria blamed the Arab League decision on U.S. meddling. Foreign Minister Walid Muallem threatened all kinds of retaliation, warning ominously in a statement, "Syria has other cards to play if Arab states decide to become conspirators."

Syria doesn't make idle threats. It holds sway with Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Syria has a demonstrated ability to open its borders and permit Islamist radicals to infiltrate into neighboring Iraq, Turkey or Jordan. Its ability to sow mayhem is a well-documented fact of Middle Eastern history.

Arab League members, long infamous for toothless proclamations and ineffectual leadership, must steel themselves for a potentially bitter struggle and spillover violence. They must nevertheless make clear they will not allow threats to derail the Arab world's historic advance toward democratic governance. Their bold stand against Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi marked a crucial shift in the organization's credibility, which is being challenged anew in Syria.

Washington has exercised much-needed restraint and should maintain a low profile, especially considering our country's close ties to Israel. America can be most effective working behind the scenes to gain Russian and Chinese support for tougher sanctions and urging them to stop vetoing Security Council resolutions condemning Syria.

Given the Arab Spring's trajectory so far, it's not outrageous to envision a dictator-free Syria in our future. The Arab League and international community must resolve to match words with carefully calculated action to make that a reality.



## The importance of nutritional supplements

Over the years, I had the pleasure of interviewing dozens of doctors and other healthcare practitioners. Virtually all of them took supplements every day, and urged his or her patients to take them also. Some doctors had vitamins for sale in their offices and some even went so far as to create their own line of supplements.

Many people believe the myth that if you eat a good breakfast, lunch, and dinner, you will get all of the nutrients you need for your daily life. You will be fine. Not true. And there are two reasons why food alone won't supply you with optimum amounts of nutrients.

First, most food that is eaten in the CNMI is processed, or has been created in a processing plant or factory. During the process, nutrients are stripped out—very often by high heat. But sometimes the raw materials, such as those foods that go into cans or frozen foods, lack the nutrient density of eating fresh food. A canned tomato does not have the nutritional value of a fresh, vine-ripened tomato.

Second, many of the big farms in the world have depleted soil, which the farmers attempt to bolster with fertilizers. It is the soil that provides the source for the plant, and for the vitamins and minerals that eventually are carried into it. But if the soil is poor, then the nutrients won't be in the plant or fruit.

There is more. Most commercially grown fruits and vegetables have been sprayed, often more than once during their growth cycle, with pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides. These chemicals find their way into the fruit or vegetables and will contaminate whoever eats them. These are small, trace amounts but they still can affect you and your health.

One might think that locally grown fruits and vegetables are free from toxins, but farmers here also use chemicals to keep bugs from ruining the plants. In fact, not long ago, a farmer was cited for using a banned chemical. I don't recall what it was now—maybe chlordane.

A simple soak will help drastically reduce the amount of toxins on your produce. In a gallon of water, add 1 tsp of Clorox bleach. Soak all fruits and vegetables for 10 minutes. Then dump out the Clorox water, rinse out the pail, and soak the fruits and vegetables in clean, fresh water, for another 10 minutes.

### Why take vitamins?

Given that most food is nutritionally depleted, supplements can fill in the gaps and get your blood nutrient levels up to optimum. I'll bet that if 100 CNMI citizens were to be given a blood test, one that checks nutrient levels of 24 vitamins and minerals, almost everyone would be deficient—in *everything*. If you are nutritionally depleted, then your immune system may be compromised and the likelihood of your getting sick increases dramatically.

There are two basic kinds of vitamins: water soluble and fat soluble. Water soluble vitamins (such as vitamin C, the vitamin B's) tend

By RUSS MASON, M.S.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, *Alternative & Complementary Therapies*. His principal assignment was to interview a physician, or other health care practitioner, about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.

to be used up quickly, so they have to be replenished every day.

Vitamin C is affected by levels of activity stress, so that if you drink a glass of orange juice, the 20mg of vitamin C will be used up within 30 minutes. That is why doses of 1,000mg of vitamin C are often recommended. That dose will just last a longer time. Most of the One-Per-Day vitamins have only 60mg of vitamin C, and miniscule amounts of the B vitamins. Optimum dosages are 500-1,000mg of vitamin C every day; 25-100mg of the B complex. Once again, if you are in a highly charged, or stressful, job, then go for the higher dosages.

The fat soluble vitamins are vitamin E, vitamin D, vitamin A, and vitamin K; the body can store these temporarily, but get used up eventually. And vitamin E is one nutrient you can't get in adequate amounts from food. You have to take a supplement. 400iu's is the standard dose, of mixed tocopherols. E is absolutely essential for good health.

There are quite a few important minerals, of which most people do not get enough. If you drink milk or eat dairy products, you may be getting enough calcium, but magnesium is also essential, and is often neglected. Calcium and magnesium function well together, and sometimes you will see Cal-Mag formulations sold by vitamin companies. Other essential minerals are zinc (for men especially), iron (for women and seniors, especially), selenium (works very well with vitamin E and has been shown to prevent certain cancers).

### A healthy heart

A friend of mine lives in California. He does not take supplements, and two weeks ago was rushed to the hospital with heart problems. He is OK now, but there are nutrients that Rick could have taken that would have helped to prevent his condition.

For a healthy heart, magnesium, 500mg, every day, is essential. Magnesium helps to control an irregular heartbeat (cardiac arrhythmia, pvc's). Coenzyme Q-10 has been shown to be an effective adjunct in treating congestive heart failure. Taking magnesium and

See SUPPLEMENTS on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

**Tools****By RIK VILLEGAS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Rik coaches businesses through their most challenging transition points to develop consistently profitable businesses that operate without them. He can be contacted at [RikVillegas@gmail.com](mailto:RikVillegas@gmail.com), and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.*



My wife, Janel, decided that “we” were going to carve a pumpkin this year for Halloween. I knew that “we” meant that I was going to have a major role in the activity. She bought a large pumpkin, researched designs on the Internet and showed me some YouTube videos to help me get started.

One of the experts showed how to tape the design to the pumpkin, and then he spent two hours pushing a pin carefully through the lines of the pattern so that when the paper was pulled away, the small holes could be faintly seen. The next seven hours were spent cutting and scooping pieces of the pumpkin with an x-acto knife to reveal an intricate design.

The pumpkin sat for several days because I knew I didn’t have nine spare hours to spend carving a pumpkin. Finally the Friday night before Halloween, I decided to work smart by employing tools that we

had in the house. Rather than spend two hours pushing a pin through a paper, I used an old pounce wheel I had purchased when I was in high school. It has a handle with a small wheel at the end that looks like a cowboy’s spur. It’s used by sign painters to make a series of small holes in a paper pattern so that a bag of charcoal could be pounced on the holes to leave a faint pattern when the paper is removed. That took about 20 minutes to complete instead of two hours.

I used some wood carving tools, instead of an x-acto knife to quickly scoop large pieces of the pumpkin to reveal a tiger’s head. That took only about an hour to complete. Another 20 minutes was spent cutting out the top and cleaning the inside. I was more excited that I shaved seven hours off the time than what the final product revealed.

With the right tools, you can accomplish something in much less time, or with greater ease and higher quality. I’m very frugal, but when it comes to purchasing tools for my profession, I am willing to pay for the best because I know that it will pay for itself over and over again. When I was studying art, I learned that the cheap brushes cost less initially, but they quickly wore out or did not produce the desired result. A brush that cost twice as much would often last four times as long and create an effect that was not possible with the cheaper brushes.

Having the right tools in business is essential if you are serious about your work. This can be the specific equipment you need for your particular profession, the right phone system to take messages and provide quality reception, or the proper vehicles that can improve your productivity.

Technology is constantly evolving to improve the productivity and performance of entrepreneurs. The Internet and social media sites have allowed a business to expand its influence beyond what

was possible on a limited budget only a decade ago. In fact, a small company in Winnemucca, Nevada can now be a global business competing with larger corporations if it has the right tools.

I recently made an inventory of some inexpensive tools available on the Internet that can save a businessperson many hours. They won’t carve a pumpkin, but they can sure make you more productive. Here they are:

Enounce.com has a tool that can speed videos and audio recordings up to three times as fast, without it sounding like Alvin and the Chipmunks. I use it all the time to listen to material at 1.5 times faster than normal, and if I pay careful attention, I’ll kick it up to twice the speed without sacrificing clarity.

BaseCampHQ.com allows a business to easily keep track of all projects within a company, or assignments given to clients. I’ve used project management software, but it can sometimes be complicated. This site has simplified the process so it can be used with 95 percent of the projects a company tackles. Another tool at Teamly.com allows you to list the top five things to accomplish each day, week, and month.

One of my favorite tools is Snagit, which can be found at Techsmith.com. This allows me to not only do screen captures of an entire website, or just a small portion, but to also edit them and easily export them to Word or PowerPoint.

I’m sure you have your own “bag” of tools that allows you to save time and produce better results. Owning the right tool is an investment and not an expense over time. It separates the professionals from the hobbyists, and the right tools can make you look good in record time. Next Halloween I’ll be ready for whatever Janel decides “we” are going to carve.

**Advertisements offering immigration legal services****By TIMOTHY H. BELLAS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Timothy H. Bellas is chairman of the Disciplinary Committee of the CNMI Bar Association.*



It has recently been brought to the attention of the CNMI Disciplinary Committee that there are advertisements in the local media and the Internet by persons or entities who are offering services or advice regarding immigration matters in the CNMI community but who are not licensed attorneys or “accredited representatives.”

I write this letter in the interest of protecting members of the public from paying fees to persons who should not be providing legal services and also in order to warn persons who may be providing such services of the potential consequences of their actions.

While the committee realizes that there is an imminent deadline to file appropriate documentation in order to preserve the right to remain in the CNMI, persons needing services or advice should be aware that getting legal advice about an immigration matter should be from a licensed member of the CNMI Bar Association. If you have any doubts about whether the person you are dealing with is a licensed member of the CNMI Bar Association, contact the CNMI

Bar Association at telephone number 235-4529.

The only exception to representation by a licensed attorney is representation by an accredited representative of an organization, which has been approved by the Board of Immigration Appeals to provide such services. To determine if you are dealing with such a person you can check the United States Department of Justice website for the “Recognition & Accreditation Program” at <http://www.justice.gov/eoir/ra.html>. Or you can ask the person you are dealing with to show their BIA approval order. For additional information, you can also check the USCIS website regarding its initiative to combat the unauthorized practice of law at <http://tinyurl.com/3cmskxo>.

Members of the public should be aware that relying on incorrect advice can cause harm to your application process, in the form of delays and even possible denial. Also dealing with an unlicensed or unaccredited person can cause a financial loss if the work is never completed or if you have to pay an attorney to correct the errors of such a person.

As for those persons who are thinking about offering such services, while it may seem like a good way to make quick money, the process of obtaining an immigration permit, especially for permanent resident status, often requires more than the mere filling out of immigration forms.

Not only does an unlicensed or unaccredited person subject himself or herself to potential liability for mistakes resulting from incorrect advice provided to the applicant, but the unauthorized practice

of law can be investigated by the Disciplinary Committee and then referred for prosecution as a civil disciplinary matter to the Superior Court. In addition, the CNMI Legislature has made the unauthorized practice of law a criminal matter, which can be punished by a maximum of one year in jail or a fine of \$2,000, or both.

USCIS has recently publicized its efforts to combat the unauthorized practice of law in the immigration area. In connection with those efforts USCIS has defined the unauthorized practice of immigration law as including:

- Legal assistance to applicants or petitioners in immigrations matters;
- Charging more than a nominal fee; and
- Representing yourself as being qualified in legal matters by persons who are not licensed attorneys or accredited representatives.

Therefore, on behalf of the Disciplinary Committee, we urge members of the public to be careful in selecting a person to represent them in an immigration matter. For those who are offering such immigration services but are not authorized to do so, the penalties for such unauthorized practice of law can be severe.

If you wish to report a problem already experienced in connection with an immigration matter, please contact me or any member of the Disciplinary Committee (Robert T. Torres, vice chair; Janet King, member; Bruce Mailman, member; Sean Frink, member) at 235-4529.

**SUPPLEMENTS**

From Page 10

CoQ10 every day is a smart way to help prevent heart problems down the road. And this is just a small part of a “healthy lifestyle”—which you probably know about.

Often heart problems are actually problems with clogged arteries, due to an excessive buildup of plaque. But this condition can also be helped, with a daily cocktail of nutrients, created by the late Dr. Linus Pauling, Ph.D., and winner of two Nobel prizes. In a blender with 12 oz. water, you add 1 tsp vitamin C powder, ½ tsp Lysine powder, and ½ tsp Proline powder. Blend it and drink it every day. It will help to clear out your arteries and keep them clean. At least that is what Dr. Pauling has stated. I know of no studies about this, but then—who would fund such a study? Certainly not the pharmaceutical industry! But I do it anyway, because Dr. Pauling is smarter than me about nutrients.

Bottom line: take your vitamins. You’ll reduce your risk of getting sick, have more energy, and generally feel better.

*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual medical advice. Readers should obtain professional medical advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations.*

**Letters to the Editor****A plea for help**

Dear USCIS and Judge Ramona Manglona: First, I would like to greet you a happy day and hope that God will always be with you and guide you. For the past 24 years that I’ve stayed here and worked legally, I never committed any crime. I always paid my taxes and respected and abided by the law. I worked here in construction as a carpenter (finishing).

I read the letter of Mr. Vince Cabrera that when we leave, Saipan will be fine. For me, that’s not true because when I came here in October 1987, Saipan was not good and fine, especially Middle Road, which was dusty and like a jungle and not totally developed. What will happen to your island if, after Nov. 27, all contract workers will unite and decide to leave? But it’s impossible, right?

I write this letter to ask a favor and help! If there’s a possibility, can you extend the Nov. 27 deadline? Also our umbrella permits? This is for the sake of many people, especially those who have U.S. citizen children who, until now, could not find an employer.

I got married here in 1993 and God gifted us two children: a 17-year-old in 12th grade and an 8-year-old in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Every parent wants their children to finish their education. My daughter is very smart and talented. She was awarded valedictorian in Garapan Elementary School in 2006 and Hopwood Jr. High School in 2008,

and she will represent Saipan in Texas this year (NFL). My children are worried if we will leave them, asking us what will happen to their studies if we will leave. I just tell them, “My children, continue to pray and God will always listen.”

Lastly, I would also like to take this opportunity to tell my last employer, if you read this letter, please give me my back wages (\$1,000). Also to Tax & Rev, Finance, and Treasury, please mail our stimulus checks (2009-2010). You told us to check our box after two weeks, but it’s already two years now. I will use this money to buy our plane tickets if I cannot find an employer by Nov. 27. And to those employers who are willing to help, please help those who are needed here, especially skilled workers. God bless Saipan!

**Ruben G. Sahagun**  
Puerto Rico, Saipan

**Thank you!**

I just wanted to say thanks to the wide coverage you folks provide daily for those of us so far away from home. It seems the *Variety* these days is only covering about a third of the news on Saipan and what they DO cover, they only give about half the story or omit news items altogether. Thanks for the hard work!






**Paul Beebe**  
Spokane, Washington



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 85° ▼ 77°	▲ 85° ▼ 76°	▲ 85° ▼ 76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 76
Yap	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 80

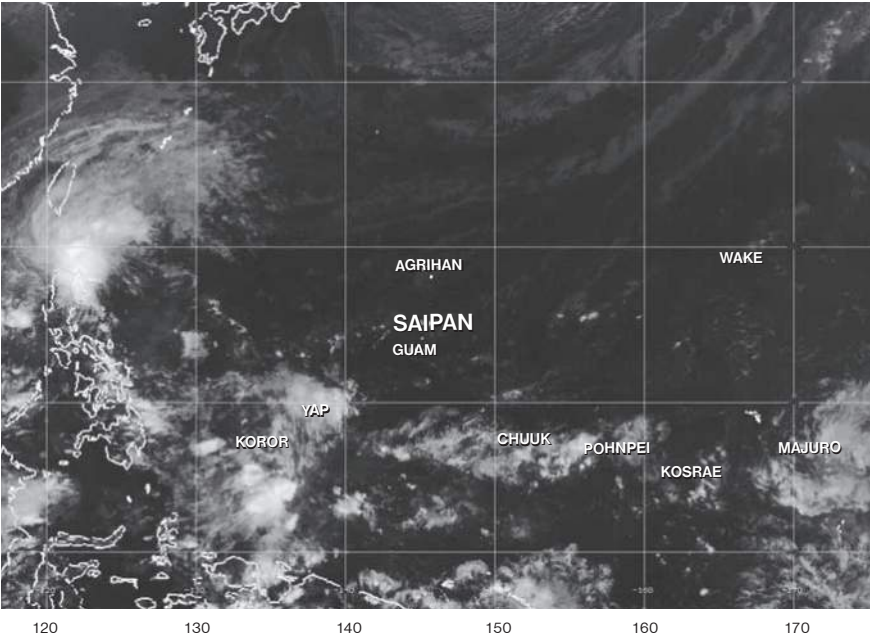
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 59
Beijing	Rain	▲ 48 ▼ 40
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 78 ▼ 75
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55 ▼ 47
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 48
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76 ▼ 63
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 71
New York	Rain	▲ 58 ▼ 44
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 65 ▼ 51
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 54 ▼ 41
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 59
Rome	Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 39
Salem	Rain	▲ 55 ▼ 47
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 52
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 52
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 52
Washington, DC	Rain	▲ 61 ▼ 46

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:34 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
1:00 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
6:52 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
10:59 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2011**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends across much of Micronesia from 7N130E to 4N150E to 6N155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of Palau between the equator and 6N from 130E to 136E north of Yap within 50 miles of a line from 11N136E to 11N141E and in the vicinity of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 80 miles of a line from 7N144E to 7N160E. Another surface trough extends northeastward from 4N171E to 11N175E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring within 150 miles of the trough axis.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:08 PM	11:15 AM
Friday		11:59 AM
Saturday	12:03 AM	12:42 PM
Sunday	12:58 AM	1:25 PM
Monday	12:58 AM	1:25 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
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#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b>	<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)</b>
C05062 2:10am 2:40am 1, 5	C05064 5:15am 5:45am 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)</b>	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)</b>
C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5	C05062 3:10am 3:45am 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b>	<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b>
C05070 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP	C05062 2:10am 3:45am 1, 5 via ROP
C05070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily	C05071 7:00am 7:50am Daily
C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7	C05073 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05076 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05075 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7
C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05077 5:30pm 6:20pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6	C05077 5:40pm 6:30pm 3, 6
C05072 9:55pm 10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05079 8:35pm 9:25pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6	C05079 8:45pm 9:35pm 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b>	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b>
DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily	DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily
DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily	DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b>	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1	OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily
OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7
OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b>	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b>
3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b>	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b>
3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b>	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN	OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily via ICN
OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288 8:00am 1:15am+1 Daily via NRT
C05070/191 4:35am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM	C0190/5077 10:55am 6:30pm 3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT	C0190/5079 10:55am 9:35pm 3, 6 via GUM
C05068/183 8:25am 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN
C05068/183 8:25am 9:40pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C05076/183 3:10pm 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM	PR110/C05071 10:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
C05076/183 3:10pm 9:40pm 1, 4, 7 via GUM	C0192/5071 10:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C05076/193 3:10pm 11:00pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau	C0184/5071 11:10pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C05072/PR111 9:55pm 7:50am 1, 5 via GUM	C0184/5071 11:59pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM
C05072/PR111 10:05pm 7:50am 3, 6 via GUM	
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)</b>	<b>HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN</b>
OZ606/721 2:10am 12:00pm 1 via ICN	OZ724/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN
OZ606/721 2:40am 12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN
C05076/179 3:05pm 10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/723 3:20pm 10:30pm Daily via ICN	C0180/5071 11:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## European economy has all but stalled, report says

**LONDON (AP)**—Europe appears headed for a recession—if it isn't in one already.

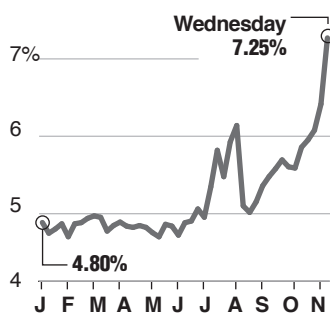
Economic growth has all but stopped in Europe, statistics showed Tuesday. The stall comes just when Italy, Greece and other nations need growth to help them wriggle out of the chokehold of debt.

The European Union economy grew a paltry 0.2 percent in July, August and September compared with the three months before, the EU statistics agency said. That is the same growth rate as the previous quarter, and far slower than the 0.7 percent before that.

And the picture is probably even worse. The statistics did

### Soaring rates

Annualized yield on 10-year Italian government bonds, weekly closes and latest:



© 2011 MCT  
Source: Bloomberg News  
Graphic: Los Angeles Times

not include Italy and Greece, the two countries in the most debt trouble. And their debt cri-

sis only got worse in October, the month after this snapshot was taken.

Besides lowering standards of living and hurting the job market in Europe, a recession would be bad news for the U.S., which sells 20 percent of its exports to Europe, and for Asia.

Taken as a whole, Europe also has the largest economy in the world, producing \$16.2 trillion in goods and services last year. The United States produced \$14.5 trillion last year, China \$5.9 trillion.

So economic sickness in Europe has the ability to slow growth around the world.

"People are uncertain," said Ferdinand Fichtner of the Ger-

man Economic Institute DIW. "That is poison for growth."

Fear that the economic slowdown will make the debt crisis worse were evident in financial markets Tuesday. Borrowing costs rose for many nations, an indication that investors are nervous about lending to them.

In Italy, the yield on the closely watched 10-year bond rose back above 7 percent, even though a new government has replaced the dysfunctional regime of Silvio Berlusconi. The yield rose above 7 percent

for the first time last week and helped drive Berlusconi from office. And yields of 7 percent forced Greece and other European countries to seek bailouts.

The yield was at 7.04 percent late Tuesday, up 0.46 percentage points from the day before. Spain was at 6.29 percent, up 0.22 percentage points, and France was at 3.66 percent, up 0.23 percentage points.

Higher bond yields triggered by slow—or no—growth create a vicious cycle that is difficult for a country to stop.

When the yield goes up on its debt, a country must spend more money paying interest. If the economy isn't growing, then the deficit grows, and countries have to borrow even more. Cut services to close the gap, and the economy can slow even more.

The two largest economies in Europe, Germany and France, kept growing from July through September, but not much faster than their neighbors—0.5 percent in Germany and 0.4 percent in France.

## Aikin encourages fund managers, fiduciaries step up at PRIC 2011

The Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies recently brought together almost 200 key decision makers and high level ranking officials from 12 countries during the biggest investment conference yet in the Asia Pacific region, the 11th Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference back-to-back with the prestigious Accredited Investment Fiduciary® (AIF®) Training held last October in New World Hotel, Makati City.

Leading the pack of fiduciaries, 11th PRIC keynote speaker Blaine Aikin, shared his valuable insights and encouragement for attendees to step up in

their respective responsibilities by emphasizing seven significant precepts in his talk: Know the rules; Diversify to a risk and return profile; Prepare an IPS (Investment Policy Statement); Use prudent experts and document due diligence; Control and Account for investment expenses; Monitor the activities of prudent experts; and Avoid conflicts of interests and prohibited transactions.

Blaine is the chief executive officer of Fi360, the go-to global source of investment fiduciary insights.

APAFS, through the 11th PRIC, seeks to create the financial and investment arena into

a progressive niche for world-class fiduciaries by bringing in the AIF® Training, one of the most sought-after designations in the field of investment, led by Fi360. A number of key players in the financial industry also pledged their support in the conference: the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific (ADFIAP), the Trust Officers Association of the Philippines (TOAP), the Chartered Financial Analyst Society of the Philippines (CFA), the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (FINEX), and the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE). (APAFS)

## Consumers hit retail stores to give economy boost

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Consumers are giving a modest lift to the economy.

They spent more on trucks, electronics and building supplies in October to boost retail sales for the fifth straight month.

The gains provide an encouraging start for the October-December quarter. They come just as separate reports show that wholesale prices are flattening and U.S. shoppers are spending more at Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer.

Still, consumers might not be able to sustain their spending growth if unemployment remains high and pay raises scant. And Europe may be on the brink

of a recession that could further slow U.S. growth next year.

"The consumer has to come through this holiday season if we are going to get back to more decent growth rates, and the early readings are those households have hit the stores quite strongly," said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors.

Retail sales rose 0.5 percent from September to October, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. Healthy auto sales helped. Even without autos, sales rose by the most since March.

And excluding autos and sales at gasoline stations, sales

rose 0.7 percent, also the biggest increase since March.

A rebound in consumer spending was the key reason why the economy grew at an annual rate of 2.5 percent in the July-September quarter. It was the best quarterly performance in a year.

Economists said the October retail sales data suggest that the economy is growing at roughly the same pace in the final three months of the year. Consumer spending fuels about 70 percent of economic activity.

Stronger growth has helped calm fears that the U.S. economy might be at risk of another recession.

## Apple names Arthur Levinson non-exec chair

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**—Apple Inc. has named Arthur Levinson as its non-executive chairman, a move that rewards the longtime Apple board member who chose it over Google Inc. when the technology giants began to compete with each other.

Levinson, 61, fills the vacancy left open when co-founder Steve Jobs died last month at age 56 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. Jobs had been chairman for less than two months, a position created when he stepped down as chief executive in August.

Robert Iger, president and CEO of The Walt Disney Co., was tapped as a director.

The appointments were announced Tuesday.

Levinson is chairman of pharmaceuticals company Genentech Inc. He showed his loyalty in 2009 when a federal investigation pressured him to choose between keeping his board seat at Apple or at Internet search leader Google Inc., when the companies had become rivals in mobile devices and Web browsers.

Levinson said in a statement that he was honored to be named Apple's chairman.

"Apple is always focused on out-innovating itself ... and that is something I am very proud to be a part of," he said.

Levinson's allegiance may have been especially appreciated by Jobs, who had become convinced that Google stole iPhone's innovative

touch-screen operating system to develop its own platform called Android.

Jobs' antipathy toward Google and its former CEO, Eric Schmidt, was well documented during interviews he gave with his biographer, Walter Isaacson. Schmidt was an Apple board member for three years until he resigned in August 2009 as the rivalry between the two companies grew. Levinson resigned from Google's board two months later.

Levinson joined Genentech as a research scientist in 1980 and led it as chief executive from 1995 to 2009. Levinson has been co-lead director on Apple Inc.'s board since 2005, serving as co-lead director with Avon Products Inc. CEO Andrea Jung. Levinson joined Apple's board in 2000.



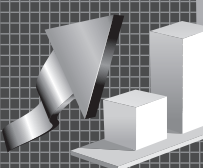
Levinson



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

APAFS chair Gerry Cruz, left, shakes hands with Blaine Aikin, keynote speaker of the 11th PRIC held last month in Makati, Philippines.

### STOCK PORTFOLIO



### LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,096.16	1,257.81	2,686.20
+17.18	+6.03	+28.98
+0.14%	+0.48%	+1.09%

### EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms	Hong Kong Dollar	Philippine Peso
Australian Dollar	7.7852	43.505
British Pound	50.9163	1.2964
Canadian Dollar	9037.5	1136.35
Chinese Yuan	76.9995	0.9203
Euro	3.1655	30.2213
	1.3084	30.87



# Nation

## Supercommittee: Boehner calls tax plan fair offer

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Speaker John Boehner publicly blessed a Republican deficit-reduction plan Tuesday that would raise \$300 billion in additional tax revenue while overhauling the IRS code, bucking opposition by some GOP presidential hopefuls and colleagues wary of violating a longstanding point of party orthodoxy.

Boehner, the top Republican in Congress, spoke as time grew perilously short for agreement by the deficit-fighting “supercommittee.” The panel has until a week from Wednesday to vote on any compromise, but several officials said that in reality, perhaps as little as 48 or 72 hours are available to the six Republicans and six Democrats.

While Boehner’s voice is important, his endorsement does not mean all Republicans will follow him or that a deal is in sight. Republicans have been unified for two decades in opposition to higher taxes, while Democrats on the supercommittee insist on additional revenue before they will agree to cuts in benefit programs like Medicare as part of a compromise.

The speaker said that the plan, outlined a week ago to Democrats on the committee, was “a fair offer.” Adding tax reform would generate economic growth, he said, speaking as the supercommittee groped un-

certainly for a compromise to reduce red ink by \$1.2 trillion or more over a decade.

Any deal must be certified by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office as meeting the \$1.2 trillion target, circulated to lawmakers and then posted publicly before the committee takes formal action. Failure to act would trigger \$1.2 trillion in automatic deficit cuts in 2013 that both sides say they want to avoid.

### On the super committee's calendar

The 12-member congressional super committee tasked with finding at least \$1.2 trillion in deficit reductions is coming up against some big deadlines:

**Nov. 23** Deadline for the committee to vote on a deficit reduction plan

**Dec. 2** Committee must submit a report to the president, Congress

**Dec. 23** Congress must vote on the committee bill

**Jan. 15, 2012** If committee fails to reach a deal or its bill is rejected, a “trigger” leading to \$1.2 trillion in automatic, future cuts — half from military spending and half from domestic over 10 years — goes into effect

**Jan 2, 2013** Cuts required by the “trigger” begin to go into effect, but depending on who wins the November 2012 presidential and congressional election the automatic cuts could be suspended or changed

Source: National Journal

The full committee hasn’t met in several days, but various subgroups have been in near constant contact.

More than deficit reduction is at stake, one year into an era of divided government.

Democrats are hoping to add elements of President Barack Obama’s jobs legislation to any deficit-cutting deal, including extensions of a Social Security payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits that are due to expire at

the end of the year. A comprehensive rewrite of farm programs may hang in the balance, too, and lawmakers also must pass legislation to assure sufficient funds to reimburse doctors who treat Medicare patients.

As the pace of private talks intensifies, the two sides vie publicly for the high ground in public opinion.

“I am still hopeful that a few Republicans will put their country first and come to us with a credible offer with real revenue,” Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., co-chair of the supercommittee, told reporters as she emerged from a late-afternoon meeting.

Earlier, the Republican Senate leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, said GOP members

on the committee outlined a proposal several days ago and have yet to receive a response from Democrats. “It’s been a long week, waiting for a counter-proposal,” he said.

The twin issues of taxes and benefit programs have long been stumbling blocks in budget negotiations.

In negotiations last summer, according to numerous officials, President Barack Obama and Boehner were considering sizeable cuts to benefit programs as well as an overhaul of the tax code that would have raised as much as \$800 billion in additional revenue—money that Republicans said at the time would have come from economic growth. The talks ultimately failed.

In his comments Tuesday,

Boehner cited the importance of tax overhaul in the proposal that Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., made to supercommittee Democrats last week.

“It’s important for us to, in my opinion, reform the tax code. And we’ve got the highest business tax rate in the world. We’ve got a personal tax system that’s so complicated it costs Americans about \$500 billion a year to comply with the current tax code,” he said.

Boehner asserted that the changes would “make America more competitive and produce more economic growth. And so I do believe that reforming the code is a step in the right direction. The details of how we get there, frankly, I think are yet to be worked out.”

## Crackdowns reach epicenter of Wall Street protests

NEW YORK (AP)—Crackdowns against the Occupy Wall Street encampments across the county reached the epicenter of the movement Tuesday, when police roused protesters from a Manhattan park and a judge ruled that their free speech rights do not extend to pitching a tent and setting up camp for months at a time.

It was a potentially devastating setback. If crowds of demonstrators return to Zuccotti Park, they will not be allowed to bring tents, sleeping bags and other equipment that turned the area into a makeshift city of dissent.

But demonstrators pledged to carry on with their message protesting corporate greed and economic inequality, either in Zuccotti or a yet-to-be chosen new home.

“This is much bigger than a square plaza in downtown Manhattan,” said Hans Shan, an organizer who was working with churches to find places for protesters to sleep. “You can’t evict an idea whose time has come.”

State Supreme Court Justice Michael Stallman upheld the city’s eviction of the protesters after an emergency appeal by the National Lawyers Guild.

The protesters have been camped out in the privately owned park since mid-September. Mayor Michael Bloomberg said he ordered the sweep because health and safety conditions and become “intolerable” in the crowded plaza. The raid was conducted in the middle of the night “to reduce the risk of confrontation” and “to minimize disruption to the surrounding neighborhood,” he said.

By early Tuesday evening, some protesters were being allowed back into the park two by two. But they could each take only a small bag.

Still, some protesters believed the loss of Zuccotti Park may be an opportunity to broaden and decentralize the protest to give it staying power.

“People are really recognizing that we need to build a movement here,” Shan said. “What we’re dedicated to is not just about occupying space. That’s a tactic.”

But without a place to congregate, protesters will have a harder time communicating with each other en masse. The leaders of the movement spent most of Tuesday gathering in small groups throughout the city—in church basements, in public pla-

zas and on street corners—and relaying plans in scattered text messages and email.

Robert Harrington, owner of a small importing business in New York, stood outside the barricade with a sign calling for tighter banking regulations.

“To be effective it almost has to move out of the park,” Harrington said. “It’s like the antiwar movement in the ‘60s, which started as street theater and grew into something else.”

“The issues,” he added, “are larger than just this camp.”

Protesters milling around Zuccotti Park said they were dismayed by the ruling.

Chris Habib, a New York artist, said he hoped the group could settle on a new protest site during a meeting later Tuesday evening. He was confident the movement would continue even if its flagship camp was dismantled.

“A judge can’t erase a movement from the public mind,” he said. “The government is going to have to spend a lot of time in court to defend this.”

Pete Dutro, head of the group’s finances, said the loss of the movement’s original encampment will open up a dialogue with other cities.

## Email, TV talk add new twists to Penn State case

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP)—A former Penn State graduate assistant cited by a grand jury report as claiming he saw an ex-assistant football coach sexually abusing a young boy in a campus locker room shower says in an email he made sure the act was stopped and then went to police—contradicting what the report says.

Mike McQueary’s comments, in an email made available to The Associated Press on Tuesday, appeared to add more confusion to a scandal that has enveloped the university and resulted in the firing of head coach Joe Paterno, the ousting of president Graham Spanier and charges of perjury against the athletic director and a senior vice president.

McQueary, now the football team’s wide receivers coach, told a friend from Penn State that he made sure the 2002 shower assault he witnessed was stopped and went to the police about it. The friend made McQueary’s email, written Nov. 8, available to the AP on Tuesday on the condition he not be identified.

McQueary, who has been placed on administrative leave and did not coach in Saturday’s

17-14 loss to Nebraska, wrote: “I did stop it, not physically ... but made sure it was stopped when I left that locker room ... I did have discussions with police and with the official at the university in charge of police ... no one can imagine my thoughts or wants to be in my shoes for those 30-45 seconds ... trust me.”

Added McQueary: “Do with this what you want ... but I am getting hammered for handling this the right way ... or what I thought at the time was right ... I had to make tough impacting quick decisions.”

According to the grand jury report, McQueary testified he spoke to his father and then to Paterno before speaking to athletic director Tim Curley and senior vice president Gary Schultz, who oversaw campus police. Paterno has not been charged with any crime, and state prosecutors have said he is not a target. Curley and Schultz are accused of breaking the law by not going to police but maintaining their innocence.

McQueary’s actions also have been scrutinized, with some critics suggesting he didn’t do enough after witnessing what he said was the sexual abuse of a child. Emails to McQueary

from the AP were not immediately answered Tuesday.

McQueary’s remarks in the email to his friend came less than a day after former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky’s admission that he showered with and “horsed around” with boys stunned legal observers. Sandusky’s comments, they said, could be used by prosecutors trying to convict him of child sex abuse charges.

Experts in criminal law and crisis management questioned Sandusky’s decision to give a TV interview in which he said that there was no abuse and that any activities in a campus shower with a boy were just horseplay, not molestation.

“Mr. Sandusky goes on worldwide television and admits he did everything the prosecution claims he did, except for the ultimate act of rape or sodomy? If I were a prosecutor, I’d be stunned,” said Lynne Abraham, the former district attorney of Philadelphia. “I was stunned, and then I was revolted.”

Abraham, who led a grand jury probe involving 63 accused priests from the Philadelphia archdiocese, was retained this week to lead an internal investigation of Sandusky’s charity, The Second Mile, from which he’s accused of culling his victims.



Sandusky



### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Post office near default? Losses mount to \$5.1B

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. Postal Service said Tuesday it has lost \$5.1 billion in the past year, pushing it closer to imminent default on a multi-billion-dollar payment and to future bankruptcy as the weak economy and increased Internet use drive down mail volume. The financial losses for the year ended Sept. 30 came despite deep cuts of more than 130,000 jobs in recent years and the closing of some smaller local post offices. Losses will only accelerate in the coming year, Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe warned, citing faster-than-expected declines in first-class mail. He implored Congress to take swift, wide-ranging action to stabilize the ailing agency’s finances as it nears a legal deadline Friday to pay \$5.5 billion into the U.S. Treasury for future retiree health benefits.

#### Gunman wounded by police in UC Berkeley shooting

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)—A man with a gun was shot by police Tuesday inside the business school at the University of California, Berkeley, after hundreds of students and anti-Wall Street activists descended on the campus for a day of protests. The shooting occurred at the Haas School of Business on the east side of campus about a half-mile away from the protest site. Ute Frey, a spokeswoman for the university, said officials did not yet know whether the suspect was part of the Occupy Cal movement. University officials said a man carrying a gun was seen by a female staff member in an elevator at the business school after 2 p.m. The staff member called police at 2:17 p.m., saying she saw the man remove the gun from a backpack.



# Asia

## US, PH boost alliance amid row with China

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The United States is helping the Philippines reinforce its weak navy as its longtime Asian ally wrangles with China in increasingly tense territorial disputes, officials said.

The long-simmering disputes over the potentially oil-rich South China Sea islands are expected to top U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's agenda in meetings Wednesday with President Benigno Aquino III and other top officials in Manila.

Clinton's two-day visit, which began Tuesday, will be capped by a highly symbolic ceremony

aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS *Fitzgerald* in Manila Bay to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the allies' Mutual Defense Treaty.

Clinton and Aquino will reaffirm the countries' defense alliance and discuss details of intensified U.S. military assistance. The U.S. is bolstering the underfunded Philippine military's capability to guard territorial waters and Manila-claimed areas in the disputed Spratlys—a chain of up to 190 islands, reefs and banks in the South China Sea, according to U.S. and Filipino officials.

The Spratlys, which straddle

one of the world's most vital sea lanes, are being disputed by China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei. The territorial row has been feared as Asia's next flashpoint for conflict.

The Philippines wants talks involving all six nations, while China wants individual negotiations to settle the disputes.

Washington has maintained a policy of not siding with any Asian claimant locked in the disputes while maintaining robust economic ties with Beijing. But U.S. has said it has a stake in security and unhampered international commerce

in the South China Sea, angering China, which says American involvement will only complicate the issue.

The Philippines, whose poorly equipped forces are no match for China's powerful military, has resorted to diplomatic protests and increasingly turned to Washington to reinforce its anemic navy and air forces. Aquino has insisted his country won't be bullied by China.

For nearly a decade, the U.S. military has been providing counterterrorism training, weapons and intelligence to help Filipino troops battle al-Qaida-linked groups in the nation's south. Those include the Abu Sayyaf, a small but

violent group blacklisted by Washington as a terrorist organization, and its allied militants from the Indonesia-based Jemaah Islamiyah group.

A senior U.S. State Department official traveling with Clinton told reporters that America's assistance would now increasingly turn to bolstering the Philippines' naval power.

"We are now in the process ... of diversifying and changing the nature of our engagement," the U.S. official said Tuesday on condition of anonymity because of sensitivity of the information. "We will continue those efforts in the south, but we are focusing more on maritime capabilities and other aspects of expedition-

ary military power."

The U.S. recently provided the Philippines with a destroyer, and the official said a second one will be delivered soon. "We are working on a whole host of things that improve their own indigenous capabilities to be able to deal with maritime challenges," the official said.

The 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty calls on each country to help defend the other against an external attack by an aggressor in their territories or in the Pacific region.

Questions have emerged whether the treaty would apply if Philippine forces come under attack in the disputed waters, all of which are claimed by China.

## Obama opens long-delayed visit to Australia

**CANBERRA, Australia (AP)**—President Barack Obama has fulfilled his promise to visit Australia after a long delay, arriving in the capital city of Canberra Wednesday afternoon for day and a half trip focused on renewing bonds with an exceptionally close U.S. ally.

Air Force One crossed the international dateline as Obama traveled from Honolulu to Australia. Obama was to hold meetings and a news conference Wednesday with Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard, who greeted him upon his arrival.

For Obama and Australia, the third time's the charm. He canceled two earlier visits, once to stay in Washington to lobby for passage of his health care bill, and again in the wake of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

The president is expected to announce that the U.S. is expanding its military presence in Australia, positioning U.S. equipment there, increasing access to bases, and conducting more joint exercises and training.

The moves would counter an increasingly aggressive China, which claims dominion over

vast areas of the Pacific that the U.S. considers international waters, and has alarmed smaller Asian neighbors by reigniting old territorial disputes, including confrontations over the South China Sea. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has said that the goal is to signal that the U.S. and Australia will stick together in face of any threats.

Deputy national security adviser Ben Rhodes, speaking with reporters on the flight to Australia, said that serving as a counterweight to China's growing influence was just one factor in the ramped-up U.S. military presence in Australia.

Others included being able to respond more quickly to natural disasters in the region, such as the devastating earthquake and tsunami earlier this year in Japan, and fighting terrorism and piracy on the high seas to help keep sea lanes of commerce open.

An increased U.S. presence would help the United States "protect our interests, protect our allies" and help it "play its critical role as an anchor of stability and security in the region," Rhodes said.

Kim Beazley, Australia's ambassador to the U.S., said the mere fact of Obama's appearance in the country was "enormously important" to Australians. And for the U.S., Australia's geographic location in the burgeoning Asia-Pacific makes the longtime ally an increasingly important one as China's might grows.

"It's an area where the United States has got considerable freedom of action, considerable interests, growing interests," Beazley said in an interview. "And Australia is well-located strategically."

Following meetings with Gillard Wednesday, Obama addresses the Australian Parliament on Thursday before traveling to Darwin on Australia's remote northern coast.

It's the first time a sitting U.S. president has been to Darwin, where U.S. and Australian forces were killed in a Japanese attack during World War II, and Obama will visit a memorial to the dead. Obama also will visit a military base in Darwin where he'll speak to Australian troops and U.S. Marines. The visit comes as the U.S. and Australia mark 60 years as defense treaty partners.

there had been fears that water could reach the entire city. But the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority reported on its website Wednesday that the city's flood situation has improved. Gov. Sukhumbhand Paribatra says Bangkok's main streets will be dry in two weeks. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is traveling to Thailand on Wednesday to express solidarity.

### India and Pakistan agree to normalize trade ties

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—India and Pakistan agreed Tuesday to normalize two-way trade, signifying a gradual thaw in relations between the two bitter rivals. At the end of two days of bilateral trade talks, Pakistan agreed to give its neighbor by early next year a small list of items that India cannot trade in with Pakistan. Both sides hope to do away with the list altogether by the end of 2012, freeing up all trade between the two countries, Indian Commerce Secretary Rahul Khullar told reporters. "The move to full normalization of trade relations shall be sequenced," the two nations said in a joint statement at the end of the talks.

## Ex-Pres Arroyo stopped from leaving PH



Former Philippine President and current member of Congress Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, center, is assisted by her aides as they leave the airport in Manila, Philippines, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011.

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The Philippine government blocked former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and her husband from leaving the country on Tuesday and said it will appeal a Supreme Court order that allowed them to travel abroad for medical treatment.

Accompanied by her husband and son, Arroyo arrived at the Manila airport in an ambulance and was wheeled into a departure hall wearing a face mask and a neck brace.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said the former first couple, being investigated for alleged corruption and electoral cheating, would be treated with dignity but "we will be firm in our decision not to allow them to leave the country."

"This is all high drama. They want the public to sympathize with them," he said.

The Arroyos were ushered into a VIP lounge while their lawyers, armed with the Supreme Court decision that over-

ruled a travel ban imposed earlier by President Benigno Aquino III, tried to persuade immigration officials to allow them to board a flight to Singapore.

After about two hours, Arroyo lawyer Raul Lambino said the officials had prevented the former president from leaving.

"They weren't able to board the airplane," he said, accusing the government of inflicting "inhumane, cruel punishment" on his client.

Arroyo and her husband later left the airport in the ambulance and headed to a hospital where Arroyo was to be checked for stress, said an ally, Rep. Edcel Lagman.

"They are very mean. They are very cruel," husband Jose Miguel Arroyo said of the government. "I feel sad. I feel mad. How can they refuse to follow the Supreme Court order? That is tyranny."

The government's refusal to comply with the order put the Aquino administration on a col-

lision course not only with the Arroyos and their allies but also with the highest court.

Aquino last week refused to let Arroyo travel, saying she might never return because of the corruption investigation and the formal charges he expected would be filed against her by the end of the year.

But the justices voted 8-5 on Tuesday to issue a temporary restraining order allowing Arroyo to seek treatment for a bone ailment, court spokesman Midas Marquez said.

"They are free to exercise their constitutional rights," Marquez said, adding that the government could be cited for contempt.

He said the Arroyos complied with court conditions for travel by posting a bond of 2 million pesos (\$46,000) and appointing legal representatives to receive any court summonses. They were also ordered to report to Philippine embassies or consulates in countries they visit.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Ai Weiwei: Feels like I just paid \$1.3M ransom

**BEIJING (AP)**—Outspoken Chinese artist Ai Weiwei says he feels like he has paid a ransom, after depositing \$1.3 million into a government account in a bid to contest tax authorities' claim his company owes \$2.4 million. He deposited the guarantee late Tuesday so that he could challenge the bill levied against his company. They now have 60 days to submit an appeal against the tax assessment—which Ai's supporters have called an attempt to silence a high-profile government critic.

#### Gov.: Bangkok's streets totally dry in 2 weeks

**BANGKOK (AP)**—Bangkok's governor says flood waters in Thailand's capital are continually receding and all main streets will be dry in two weeks—7 long-overdue good news after weeks of inundation that have killed 564 people nationwide. Flooding that began in late July has affected more than 13 million people, attracted international attention and scared away many tourists. Parts of Bangkok have flooded, and



## World

# Syrian soldiers killed as crisis accelerates

**BEIRUT (AP)**—Army defectors ambushed dozens of Syrian troops and regime forces gunned down civilians during one of the bloodiest days of the 8-month-old uprising, which appeared Tuesday to be spiraling out of President Bashar Assad's control.

Up to 90 people were killed in a gruesome wave of violence Monday, activists said. The extent of

the bloodshed only came to light Tuesday, in part because corpses lying in the streets did not reach the morgue until daylight.

As the bloodshed spiked, Assad's former allies were turning on him in rapid succession—a sign of profound impatience with a leader who has failed to stem months of unrest that could explode into a regional conflagration.

Turkey, Jordan and the 22-member Arab League all signaled they were fed up with Assad's response to the uprising and were ready to pressure him to go.

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Tuesday he no longer has confidence in the government led by Assad, a 46-year-old eye doctor who inherited power from his father 11 years ago.

"No regime can survive by killing or jailing," said Erdogan, who cultivated close ties with Assad before the uprising began in March. "No one can build a future over the blood of the oppressed."

Erdogan—who disrespectfully addressed Assad by his first name—warned that the brutal crackdown threatens to place him on a list of leaders who "feed on blood."

Turkey also canceled plans for oil exploration in Syria and threatened to cut electricity supplies to the country, which is burning through the \$17 billion in foreign reserves the government had at the start of the uprising. Turkey provides around 7 percent of Syria's total electricity consumption.

A day earlier, Jordan's King

Abdullah II said Assad should step down, the first Arab leader to publicly make such a call. And over the weekend, the 22-member Arab League took a near-unanimous vote to suspend Damascus from the regional body.

In a sign that Saudi Arabia's rulers now foresee an end to Assad's rule, the former Saudi ambassador to the United States, Prince Turki Al Faisal, told reporters in Washington that it was "inevitable" that Assad would step down.

"I think what we're seeing here and continue to see is that the drumbeat of international pressure is increasing on Assad," U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner said.

Despite the widespread condemnation, Assad was unlikely to put an end to the crackdown,

said Fadia Kiwan, a political science professor at Beirut's St. Joseph University. The reason is simple: Assad's regime would almost certainly fall if the crackdown ends, she said.

Although activists say the anti-government protesters have remained largely peaceful, an armed insurgency has developed in recent months targeting Assad's military and security forces.

Thirty-four soldiers were killed Monday in an ambush in Daraa, the birthplace of the uprising, said Rami Abdul-Rahman, head of the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The brazen attack by army defectors suggests a new confidence among troops who have sided with the protesters and highlights the potential for an armed confrontation to escalate.



In this image from amateur video made available by the Ugarit News group on Tuesday Nov. 15, 2011 shows a burning Syrian tank in Daraa, Syria on Monday Nov. 14, 2011.

## Italy's premier-designate finalizing new govt

**ROME (AP)**—Prime Minister-designate Mario Monti of Italy said Tuesday he is ready to present his new government to the president after winning wide backing—and important pledges of sacrifices—from political, business and union leaders during two days of intense consultations.

Monti said he still has to put the final touches on his Cabinet and economic program, which he will outline to President Giorgio Napolitano on Wednesday. His government must receive votes of confidence in both houses of Parliament, expected this week, to take office and begin the task of steering the eurozone's third-largest economy through its debt crisis.

Monti expressed his "serenity" and "conviction" in Italy's ability to overcome the difficult phase in its history.

"I was impressed by the sense of responsibility and willingness to back social growth," Monti said. "Everyone offered concrete contributions of possible partial sacrifices in exchange for a more general positive outcome."

Monti, a respected economist and former European commissioner, is under pressure to quickly reassure financial markets that Italy will avoid a default that could tear apart the 17 countries that use the euro currency and push the global economy back into recession.

The European Union and the European Central Bank have outlined measures Italy must take—many of them reforms



**Mario Monti**

*Italian prime minister-designate*

### Early life

**Born** 1943, Varese, Italy

**Education** Economics degrees from Bocconi University, Milan, and Yale University; studied under Nobel laureate James Tobin, inventor of the so-called "Robin Hood tax" to limit speculation

### Academic experience

**1970-1985** Taught economics at the University of Turin

**1982-1985** President of the Societe Universitaire Europeenne de Recherche Financiere (SUERF); helped create a model for how banks operate as monopolies

**1985-present** Bocconi Univ.; served as rector, then president

### Political experience

**1994-2004** Served two terms as an EU commissioner; earned the nickname "Super Mario," for tackling special interests

- Blocked the merger of General Electric and Honeywell
- Battled Germany's big, regional banks
- Launched anti-trust case against Microsoft

Source: BBC, New York Times, MCT Photo Service  
Graphic: Pat Carr

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blocked in the past by special interests.

Monti, 68, has already shown his determination to press through deep reforms by making it clear he intends to serve until regularly scheduled elections in 2013, rejecting calls for an early vote.

On Tuesday, after rounds of meetings, Monti garnered support from the center-left Democratic Party, former premier Silvio Berlusconi's People of Freedom party and the Confindustria, a powerful business lobby.

"We strongly support the birth of this government because for us it is the last chance to regain credibility," Confindustria leader Emma Marcegaglia said.

Union leader Raffaele Bonanni said Monti was close to completing his Cabinet at the time of their meeting Tuesday afternoon.

"Monti told us that he has reached an agreement with the main political forces that will give him a consistent parliamentary majority that will support him and he will very quickly be in a position to present the list of ministers," said Bonanni, leader of the powerful CISL union.

Despite reports of progress, European markets closed lower Tuesday as investors worried that politicians might pull their support in the future if austerity measures proved unpalatable.

## Al-Qaida head recalls 'human side' of bin Laden

**CAIRO (AP)**—Here's how the new head of al-Qaida remembers Osama bin Laden: A sensitive man who cried when his friends lost family members, remained close to his children despite the hard life of an international jihadist, and fondly remembered—by name—the 19 men who carried out the deadliest terrorist attack ever on U.S. soil.

Longtime bin Laden deputy Ayman al-Zawahri, now al-Qaida's new head, related these and other memories in a new video posted on jihadist websites Tuesday. In the video, al-Zawahri said he wants "to show the human side" of bin Laden's life.

In doing so, he also is likely trying to boost his own popularity by emphasizing his closeness to the terror group's former, more charismatic leader.

Bin Laden, who built al-Qaida into the world's most feared and despised terror organization and was the mastermind behind

some of its deadliest attacks, was killed by Navy SEALs in May during a raid in Pakistan. Al-Zawahri assumed control of the organization shortly after, though experts say he lacks bin Laden's charisma, which drew many to the group.

Throughout the 30-minute, conversational video, apparently the first in a series, al-Zawahri emphasizes what he calls the "nobility" of bin Laden's character—as well as his own proximity to him.

"People don't know that this man was tender, gentle, kind, with refined feelings, even when life was hard," he said, wearing a white robe and turban and sitting in front of a green curtain. "We never saw a man like him."

Al-Zawahri told stories of how bin Laden remembered al-Qaida members who died fighting "jihad," or "holy war." He gave special mention to the hijackers who carried out the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001

in the U.S., which killed nearly 3,000 people.

"The sheik would remember with goodness and gratitude and be moved by the memory of the 19 brothers who attacked the idol of our age, America—the Pentagon, the headquarters of its military power, and New York, the symbol of its economic power," he said, pointing his finger for emphasis. "He would remember these brothers with extreme fidelity."

He recalled one time when he and bin Laden were hiding in the Afghan mountains of Tora Bora, saying bin Laden wrote death certificates for each one of the hijackers, fearing he would be killed "without remembering these heroic martyrs."

At one point, al-Zawahri related bin Laden's reaction when al-Zawahri got the news that some members of his family had been killed. Bin Laden came to him with tears in his eyes and hugged him, he said.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Tunisian parties pick rights activist as president

**TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)**—A veteran human rights activist was selected as Tunisia's new interim president on Tuesday, a party official says. Moncef Marzouki, the head of the Congress for the Republic, will take on the role for the next year while a new constitution is being written, according to an official close to the party. The agreement was reached between Ennahda, the Islamist Party that won 89 of 217 seats in the new assembly in the Oct. 23 elections and the CPR, which came second with 29 seats, the official added.

### UK judiciary: Assange bids to stop extradition

**LONDON (AP)**—WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange made a last-ditch effort Tuesday to stave off his extradition to Sweden over sex-crime allegations, filing papers to see if he can win an audience and appeal to Britain's highest court. In the latest twist in Assange's year-long extradition battle, Britain's Judicial Office said

Assange filed an application for the chance to persuade judges he should be allowed one last appeal in the Supreme Court. The bid comes two weeks after High Court judges rejected the 40-year-old hacker's challenge to an order that he be extradited to Sweden to face questioning about allegations of rape and molestation.

### Giant yellow diamond auctioned for over \$10.9M

**GENEVA (AP)**—The Sun-Drop Diamond of South Africa, a giant pear-shaped yellow gem weighing 110.3 carats, has sold for more than \$10.9 million at auction Tuesday, beating previous records for a jewel of its type. Including commission the unidentified telephone bidder paid almost \$12.4 million for the gem, putting it within the \$11 million to \$15 million range Sotheby's had estimated before the sale. "It's a record for a yellow diamond at auction," said David Bennett, the head of Sotheby's jewelry division. He added that it was the eighth most expensive diamond ever sold at auction.



## Focus

## Meat from a petri dish: Credible or inedible?

By **SCOTT CANON**  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

**COLUMBIA, Mo.**—Nicholas Genovese is a lab-coated collection of incongruities.

He's being bankrolled by an animal rights group to make meat.

The molecular biologist is working in a lab at a land-grant university that pulls in millions in grants for its research on livestock. Yet the money backing him pushes the desire to end the use of animals as food.

And the guy he answers to at the University of Missouri makes clear that he sees just three reasons for a cow to exist: breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Genovese's work explores a hope—certainly distant, perhaps fanciful—to grow muscle meat separate from an animal. It would start in a laboratory and move to a factory. It aims for a world that would leave both meat lover and animal lover with a satisfied burp.

"One of the interesting things about being a human being is that we advance things," Genovese said. "Think of what we've done in the last several years with computers and cellphones. ... Why can't we make the same kind of advances with food?"

Whether you refuse to eat anything with a face or can't enjoy a patio party without indulging your carnivorous side, Genovese thinks the petri dishes he's toying with now may yield part of an answer to make you guilt-free and satiated. The technology is touted by those concerned about animal cruelty, energy shortages and climate change.

But the path to meat without feet won't be easy. It would rework Midwestern agriculture, which is centered on raising grain that feeds livestock. And it won't come without resistance that starts, for many, in the gut.

"We really need to figure out what we're putting in our bodies rather than making something bigger and cheaper," said Michael Foust, the owner and chef at The Farmhouse restaurant in Kansas City's River Market. "If I served it, I'd be out of business in a week."

Nobody will be serving it anytime soon. And the work Genovese is doing at Columbia isn't directly about making meat. Rather it involves research about self-replicating cells that might solve just one of the many technological and industrial obstacles that stand between you and animal-free meat.

But if he and the handful of other scientists can overcome the herd of practical problems, so-called cultured meat could end what some people consider mass animal cruelty—eliminating the need for operations that jam cattle in feed lots, stuff hogs in massive containment barns or crowd chickens in places where they never see the sun.

"There's the potential to continue to produce meat while you reduce an enormous amount of factory farming," said Paul Shapiro, who advocates farm animal protection for the Humane Society of the United States.

The goal would be facilities that grow muscle tissue, multiplying endlessly a single cow, pig or chicken cell to create ton after ton of meat. And just the meat. No hooves, snouts, beaks and other things that make an animal an animal—



Nicholas Genovese's research into meat is funded by an animal-rights group. His far-reaching goal is to grow muscle meat separate from the animal—in a lab and then factories.

but don't land on the dinner table.

That increased efficiency could allow more people to eat higher on the food chain even as the planet struggles to meet its growing appetite for meat.

Such futuristic in vitro meat technology might also more gently coax protein from an ever more crowded planet.

Consider that animals raised for our dinner tables now use 30 percent of the world's ice-free land. They consume 8 percent of the Earth's fresh water. They produce—in ways that go far beyond flatulence—18 percent of the planet's greenhouse gases. That's more than all

forms of transportation.

One Oxford University study concluded the factory flesh route might require slightly more energy per bite than poultry but would offer savings on all other key measures. Compared with conventional beef production, cultured meat would take barely half the energy, belch out less than 4 percent as much in greenhouse gases, use 4 percent as much water and tie up about 1 percent as much land.

Building the new burger should be possible. Scientists already grow individual organs in vitro for transplants. With meat, that work shifts to making muscle tissue.

But in labs across the world—the small field of research is concentrated in the Netherlands—only matchstick-size bits of cultured muscle tissue have been grown.

There are but two reports of consumption. One by a performance artist in Australia who gulped a small bit of frog flesh. The second was a Russian TV reporter who ate a sample before a researcher could object. He pronounced it tasteless.

Much more is left to be done. Scientists will have to identify the right cells to serve as seed stock—stuff that will grow easily and prove tasty. Everything grown so far has been sustained by animal products, typically fetal bovine serum. A replacement needs to be found first, to get the ef-

ficiencies that make the new meat worth the bother, and to gain consistency and safety from pathogens.

Meat makers will also need to find a way to essentially exercise the tissue. They might use electrical stimulation or add neurotransmitters. And a sort of meat scaffolding will have to be devised so the tissue has texture and form. Hot dogs, rather than being pieced together from the less romantic parts of a farm animal, could simply be grown as hot dogs.

Government also will need to sort out how to regulate a new class of food.

"There would have to be a pretty long list of things to do to figure out if this is safe and wholesome," said Patty Lovera, a spokeswoman for the consumer advocacy group Food and Water Watch.

Genovese and others think a commercial product might be only a decade away. The first meats will probably be akin to ground beef or chicken nuggets. It'll be harder to grow something that resembles a steak or a pork chop, but scientists imagine millions of identical cuts of meat with the marbling of fat made just so.

He was awarded a fellowship by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals for three years of research. He started that work at the University of South Carolina until that laboratory shut down for reasons unrelated to the research. He came to Missouri this month to lab facilities run by R.

Michael Roberts, a professor of animal science and biochemistry.

Roberts has made advances with induced pluripotent stem cells—technology that takes an adult cell and transforms it into something with the regenerative qualities of embryonic stem cells. He's clear that he doesn't much care for PETA or its goals and that he thinks commercialization of artificial meat is "far-fetched." But the PETA money isn't coming to the university, just to Genovese, and Roberts sees him as a promising researcher.

"He and I," Roberts said, "have similar scientific goals."

If this meat of the future were a success, it would certainly upend the lives of cattle ranchers and pig and poultry farmers.

"You would no longer need a feed yard. You wouldn't need a processing plant," said Glynn Tonsor, a livestock economist at Kansas State University. "If you remove the need for a traditional live animal, you lose the need for the operators in those segments. ... That doesn't mean it's necessarily bad for society."

The need for agriculture would hardly disappear. Grains, perhaps even the same corn and soybeans grown for livestock today, would be a likely source of the raw materials that would be fed into a meat plant.

But there would be less waste—a pound of grain would produce nearly a pound of meat. In today's agriculture, various estimates suggest 3 to 16 pounds of feed are needed to grow a pound of meat.

Do we really need to shift? Marion Nestle, a professor of nutrition at New York University and the author of "What to Eat," declared the idea of manufactured meat "revolting."

"What's wrong with food? Food seems just fine to me," she said. "Maybe it's what the world's coming to, but I don't want it."

Tom Field, a cattle production specialist for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, said that "of all the things I'm worried about, it's not even on my list. The majority of consumers ... like a product that comes from the farm."

Still, consider the reaction of Jonathan Justus. He created the Justus Drug Store restaurant in Smithville in the spirit of the locavore movement, which puts a premium on knowing where and how food is raised and getting supplies nearby.

The idea of steak without steers twists him in knots.

He sees a real upside—more food for a malnourished world and a way to produce meat on a large scale without subjecting animals to inhumane conditions. And some argue it could be safer, because the problems of fecal contamination would be eliminated.

Then he worries about potential downsides. Isn't this, he said, bound to be left to the biggest of corporations, which would force out family farmers? How long, he wonders, will it take to know what such meat would do to our bodies?

"There are issues on both sides of this," he said. "It would take an ethicist, or teams of ethicists, to figure it all out."

## A new way of growing meat

Scientists are in the process of developing an alternative way to grow meat, not from an animal but from a petri dish. This laboratory-grown method, still in the early stages of development, already has the support of many people concerned about cruelty to animals, energy shortages and climate change.

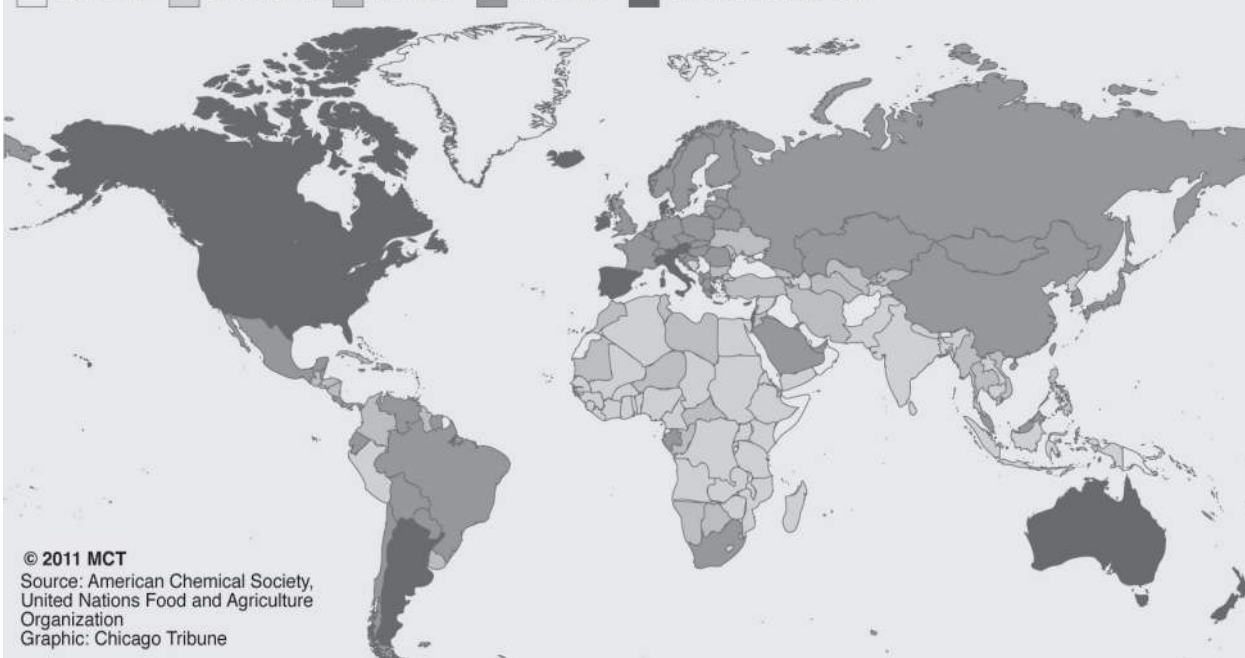
## Resources used to grow cultured meat vs. other meat products

Relative percentage compared with beef

	Beef	Sheep	Pork	Poultry	Cultured meat
Energy use	100%	70.6%	59.2%	40.5%	55.2%
Greenhouse gas emissions	100	79.6	22.0	23.2	4.9
Land use	100	61.3	37.0	34.1	.59
Water use	100	37.6	37.0	22.1	3.5

## Meat consumption by country Pounds consumed per person in 2007

■ No data ■ 50 or less ■ 51-100 ■ 101-200 ■ More than 200 lb.



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Source: American Chemical Society,  
United Nations Food and Agriculture  
Organization  
Graphic: Chicago Tribune



# Environment

## FARMING'S TERROR THREAT

# Foreign insects and diseases got into the US

**FRESNO, Calif. (AP)**—Dozens of foreign insects and plant diseases slipped undetected into the United States in the years after 9/11, when authorities were so focused on preventing another attack that they overlooked a pest explosion that threatened the quality of the nation's food supply.

At the time, hundreds of agricultural scientists responsible for stopping invasive species at the border were reassigned to anti-terrorism duties in the newly formed Homeland Security Department—a move that scientists say cost billions of dollars in crop damage and eradication efforts from California vineyards to Florida citrus groves.

The consequences come home to consumers in the form of higher grocery prices, substandard produce and the risk of environmental damage from chemicals needed to combat the pests.

An Associated Press analysis of inspection records found that border-protection officials were so engrossed in stopping terrorists that they all but ignored the country's exposure to destructive new insects and infections—a quietly growing menace that has been attacking fruits and vegetables and even prized forests ever since.

“Whether they know it or not, every person in the country is affected by this, whether by the quality or cost of their food, the pesticide residue on food or not being able to enjoy the outdoors because beetles are killing off the trees,” said Mark Hoddle, an entomologist specializing in invasive species at the University of California, Riverside.

Homeland Security officials acknowledge making mistakes and say they are now working to step up agricultural inspections at border checkpoints, airports and seaports.

While not as dire as terrorism, the threat is considerable and hard to contain.

Many invasive species are carried into the U.S. by people who are either unaware of the laws or are purposely trying to skirt quarantine regulations. The hardest to stop are fruits, vegetables and spices carried by international travelers or shipped by mail. If tainted with insects or infections, they could carry contagions capable of devastating crops.

Plants and cut flowers can harbor larvae, as can bags of bulk commodities such as rice. Beetles have been found hitchhiking on the bottom of tiles from Italy, and boring insects have burrowed into the wooden pallets commonly used in cargo shipments.

Invasive species have been sneaking into North America since Europeans arrived on the continent, and many got established long before 9/11. But the abrupt shift in focus that followed the attacks caused a steep decline in agricultural inspections that allowed more pests to invade American farms and forests.

Using the Freedom of Information Act, the AP obtained data on border inspections covering the period from 2001 to 2010. The analysis showed that the number of inspections, along with the number of foreign species that were stopped, fell dramatically in the years after the Homeland Security Department was formed.

Over much of the same period, the number of crop-threatening pests that got into the U.S. spiked, from eight in 1999 to at least 30 last year.

The bugs targeted some of the nation's most productive agricultural regions, particularly California and Florida, with their warm year-round climates that make it easy for foreign species to survive the journey and reproduce in their new home.

A look at the damage:

- No fewer than 19 Mediterranean fruit fly infestations took hold in California, and the European grapevine moth triggered spraying and quarantines across wine country.

- The Asian citrus psyllid, which can carry a disease that has decimated Florida orange groves, crossed the border from Mexico, threatening California's \$1.8 billion citrus industry.
- New Zealand's light brown apple moth also



Agriculture specialist John Machado of U.S. Customs and Border Protection sifts through the contents of a bag of rice during an inspection in Oakland, Calif.

emerged in California, prompting the government in 2008 to bombard the Monterey Bay area with 1,600 pounds of pesticides. The spraying drew complaints that it caused respiratory problems and killed birds. Officials spent \$110 million to eradicate the moth, but it didn't work.

- The sweet orange scab, a fungal disease that infects citrus, appeared in Florida, Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, which all imposed quarantines.

- Chili thrips, rice cutworms and the plant disease gladiolus rust also got into Florida, which saw a 27 percent increase in new pests and pathogens between 2003 and 2007.

- The erythrina gall wasp decimated Hawaii's wiliwili trees, which bear seeds used to make leis.

- Forests from Minnesota to the Northeast were also affected by beetles such as the emerald ash borer, many of which arrived in Chinese shipping pallets because regulations weren't enforced.

In all, the number of pest cases intercepted at U.S. ports of entry fell from more than 81,200 in 2002 to fewer than 58,500 in 2006, before creeping back up in 2007, when the farm industry and members of Congress began complaining.

Once the pests get established, costs can quickly spiral out of control. The most widely quoted economic analysis, conducted in 2004 by Cornell University, puts the total annual cost of all invasive species in the U.S. at \$120 billion. Much of that burden is borne by consumers in the form of higher food costs and by taxpayers who pay for government eradication programs.

For instance, if the destructive infection known as citrus canker were to become established in California, which produces most of the nation's fresh oranges, consumers would pay up to \$130 million more a year for the fruit, according to an ongoing study by scientists at the University of California at Davis.

“It's all about early detection, and it wasn't their priority at the time,” said A.G. Kawamura, secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture from 2003 through 2010, who was sharply criticized for the spraying in Monterey Bay.

And it's not just humans who pay the cost. Wildlife and beneficial insects die when fields are sprayed.

The problems began when the Homeland Security Department absorbed inspectors who worked for the Department of Agriculture. The move put plant and insect scientists alongside gun-toting agents from Customs and Border Protection and resulted in a bitter culture clash.

Agriculture supervisors were replaced in the chain of command by officials unfamiliar with crop science. Hundreds of inspectors resigned, retired or transferred to other agencies. Some of the inspectors who remained on the job lost their offices and desks and were forced to

work out of the trunks of their cars.

It took authorities years “to learn there's an important mission there,” said Joe Cavey, head of pest identification for a USDA inspection service. “Yeah, maybe a radioactive bomb is more important, but you have to do both things.”

At the time of the merger, at least 339 of 1,800 inspector positions were vacant. By 2008, vacancies had increased to 500, or more than a quarter of the original workforce.

The effect of the exodus was profound. One East Coast port director told a congressional investigator that she was left without a single agriculture inspector. An airport technician in Bangor, Maine, said there wasn't one within 50 miles for two years.

One agriculture inspector who defied authority was demoted, despite being credited with saving California's citrus industry from the potentially devastating effects of canker.

While working at an international mail center outside San Francisco, the inspector found a package destined for Ventura labeled “books and chocolates.” Inside were 350 citrus cuttings from Japan that were infested with canker, which has killed more than 2 million trees across Florida but does not exist in California.

He showed it to a supervisor, who, according to the Congressional Record, replied: “Look, we are here to protect the country from acts of terrorism. What do you expect me to do?”

The inspector sidestepped the supervisor and called the USDA. The resulting investigation ended with arrests and the incineration of 4,000 potentially infected trees that had been growing at an unregistered nursery in a prime citrus region.

But within a month, the whistleblower was demoted to search through the dirty laundry of passengers returning from foreign trips.

Government officials now acknowledge the problems and say they began taking corrective steps after Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California threatened in 2008 to propose a bill that would move inspectors back to the USDA and increase their numbers.

“That was a huge moment for everybody,” said Kevin Harriger, Custom and Border Protection's acting executive director of agriculture programs. “We took it on the chin and said, ‘You're right. We heard you. We've been remiss in several key areas.’”

Critics in Congress say serious damage has already been done. Sen. Daniel Akaka, a Hawaii Democrat and member of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security, said the improvements aren't happening fast enough. He's asked the Government Accountability Office to reopen an investigation.

“When change like this happens, you hope people get it right the first time,” said Rep. Dennis Cardoza, a California Democrat who also investigated the problems. “But if they don't, it's not them who pay the price. It's society that does.”

## Do Your Part: Support 'MADE IN THE USA'

By **TERRI BENNETT**  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

You can't escape the angst Americans are feeling about the state of the economy and our job market. Some people blame Republicans, some blame Democrats, and some people are taking their discontent straight to the streets. As a person who sees situations through a “green” lens, I offer another alternative: Do Your Part and buy American-made products. It takes a little work but every purchase will help keep and create jobs right here at home.

When we go shopping, how often do we really take the time to check where the product is made? If we are shopping for clothes, we may check the fashion and the fit. If we are shopping for home goods, we may just look at the price tag. The toys we buy may simply be the ones our kids see on commercials between cartoons. I challenge you to do more digging to find out where these products come from and pledge to buy American-made as often as you can. I challenged myself to do the same with even the smallest of items.

The company T-shirts that the Do Your Part team and I wear are a good example. We could have chosen the cheapest shirts, or the perfect color but instead our T-shirt decision was carefully sourced. The fabric was made from organic cotton grown in Texas. The shirts are crafted in California, and then silk screened with safe dyes in Tennessee. The same can't be said for most of the clothes and shoes Americans wear. The majority of the textiles we buy come from China, where we don't know how they are manufactured, where exactly the destructive dyes used to make them end up, what the labor regulations are, and I haven't even touched on the resources devoted to transporting these goods to the United States. The same goes for toys. By far, the bulk of the toys made on this planet are actually made in China. We've all heard of toxic materials found in the certain toys we buy from China. And while those products are often cheaper, the health and environmental costs are just too high to ignore.

So what can you do to buy products made in America? For starters, check out the label. If the label states that the product was “Made in the USA,” nearly every bit of it must be made in America and can only contain a negligible amount of foreign made materials. Remember, most of the goods we buy in this country are actually made here except when it comes to shoes and clothing and toys. You can find a number of resources to help you track down products that are 100 percent American made at [www.DoYourPart.com/Columns](http://www.DoYourPart.com/Columns).

The bottom line is that you must become an educated consumer. It's worth your time to take the time to find out where all your stuff comes from today. It's an important way to Do Your Part for our economy, our people and the planet.

*Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, author, and founder of DoYourPart, everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to [terri@doyourpart.com](mailto:terri@doyourpart.com) and follow DoYourPart on Facebook and Twitter.*



# Life & Style

## Jackson's bed removed from planned auction

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The bed where Michael Jackson died is no longer available for sale.

Julien's Auctions has removed the queen-sized headboard from its auction of items from 100 North Carolwood Drive, Jackson's last residence.

"This item is the only portion of the bed that had been listed for auction, and no part of the bed remains for sale," company president Darren Julien said Tuesday, adding that he removed the carved headboard seen in evidence photos during the criminal trial of Jackson's physician from the auction's lots at the request of Jackson's estate.

Dr. Conrad Murray was convicted last week of involuntary manslaughter in Jackson's death.

The day Murray was convicted, Julien's Auctions announced that it would sell the contents of the rented Bel Air mansion where Jackson lived as he prepared for his ill-fated series of comeback concerts. Among the items available are antique



A photo made Monday, Nov. 7, 2011 shows the bedroom at the Carolwood Drive home where singer Michael Jackson passed away in 2009, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

furnishings, oil and watercolor paintings and other effects, including a chalkboard with a message from one of Jackson's children that reads, "I (heart) Daddy."

Julien said that the mattress where Jackson took his final breaths "was never included in the auction and, in fact, is the property of The Estate of Michael Jackson." Only the headboard had been offered for sale.

"Michael Jackson has played a major part

in the history of Julien's Auctions and we would never do anything that is not in the best interests of Michael's children, his mother or the Estate. We will always honor these requests," Julien said in a statement. His company sold items from Jackson's Neverland Ranch and one of the singer's spangled gloves—which fetched more than \$400,000—in 2009.

"We want all of

our events involv-

ing items associated with Michael Jackson to be a good experience for everyone and a celebration of his life and career," Julien said.

Julien's Auctions will host a free exhibit of items from the Carolwood house at the company's Beverly Hills, Calif. Headquarters beginning Dec. 12. The auction is set for Dec. 17. Photos of the house and the items available for sale are featured in a limited-edition auction catalog, which is being sold for \$100.

## Marine corporal had a ball with Justine Timberlake

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—The Virginia-based Marine who took Justin Timberlake to her unit's annual ball said she didn't know what to expect from the evening but had a great time.

Cpl. Kelsey De Santis said she was honored that the singer and actor accepted her invitation via YouTube video to the Marine Corps Ball in Richmond.

De Santis said Tuesday on the "Today" show and "Good Morning America" that the experience was wonderful.

She said she and Timberlake had one dance, and the rest of the time they enjoyed mingling among the crowd.

"He had a smile on his face the entire time and taking pictures of people, and we were

talking, shaking hands," she said on ABC's "Good Morning America." "It was great."

De Santis said both she and Timberlake came away from the event with a renewed appreciation of the men and women who serve in the U.S. military. Timberlake said on his website

after the event that it was "one of the most moving evenings I've ever had" and that people should take the opportunity to thank service members.

Any advice to Scott Moore, the Marine who invited Timberlake's "Friends With Benefits" co-star Mila Kunis to his ball in

Greenville, N.C., this weekend?

"I don't think he needs it with the video he came out with," said De Santis, who noted Moore apparently doesn't lack confidence.

"He'll have a great time, just like I did," she said in an interview on NBC's "Today" show.

## Twain stalker released with credit for time served

TORONTO (AP)—A former doctor who admitted to stalking Canadian country star Shania Twain has been released from jail with credit for time served.

Giovanni Palumbo pleaded guilty in September to criminal harassment and had been in custody since being arrested at Canada's top music awards in March, where he showed up with a greeting card to give to Twain.

A judge sentenced Palumbo to three years of probation on Tuesday. He is not allowed within 0.5 miles (0.8 kilometers) of Twain, her family or any of her professional staff. He's also not allowed to contact her or communicate with her and has been ordered to continue counseling.

Defense lawyer Gary Barnes said his client has a mental

health issue.

Twain previously testified by video link and described the numerous lovelorn letters Palumbo had mailed to her homes in Ontario and Switzerland and discussed the feelings of fear and vulnerability conjured by his unwanted visits. He was seen at her family cottage, her grandmother's funeral and at the Juno Awards in March.

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Letter offering Beatles tryout fetches \$55,400

LONDON (AP)—Christie's auction house says a handwritten letter from Paul McCartney offering a Beatles audition to a mystery drummer has sold for nearly 35,000 pounds (\$55,400). The note, found folded in a book at a Liverpool yard sale, offered an audition to someone who had advertised their availability in the Liverpool Echo newspaper four days earlier. The unsigned ad said simply: "Drummer-Young-Free." The letter was dated Aug. 12, 1960—two years before the band bounced drummer Pete Best in favor of Ringo Starr. Christie's said a European buyer made Tuesday's 34,850

pound winning bid over the phone. The auction house had estimated it would fetch more than 7,000 pounds (\$11,000).

#### Botero sculpture fetches \$1.7M in NY

NEW YORK (AP)—Fernando Botero's monumental bronze "Dancers" has fetched more than \$1.7 million dollars at a New York auction, setting a new record for a sculpture by the renowned Colombian artist. The 10 feet-5 inch (3.05 meter-12.7 centimeter) tall sculpture, which depicts a couple standing face to face, as if about to start a dance, was made in 2007 and bought directly from Botero. It was

acquired at the first session of Christie's Latin American Art sale on Tuesday, by a private European buyer whose identity was not revealed. The previous record for a sculpture by Botero was \$1.6 million, achieved in 2007 also at Christie's with 1986's white marble piece "Mujer fumando," or "Woman Smoking."

#### Anthony movie to be based on ex-prosecutor's book

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—A spokeswoman says a TV movie is in the works about the sensational trial of Casey Anthony, the Florida woman who was eventually acquitted of killing

her 2-year-old daughter. Fox Television Studios spokeswoman Leslie Oren also said Tuesday that her company has optioned the film and television rights to "Imperfect Justice: Prosecuting Casey Anthony." The book was written by Jeff Ashton, a now-retired prosecutor from the trial. Jurors in July acquitted Anthony in the killing of her daughter, Caylee, and she was released from prison. Ashton's book hit stores Tuesday. Oren says the project is being developed for the Lifetime cable network, but it's still in the early stages. It's not yet known when it will air. In the book, Ashton takes jabs at Anthony's defense attorneys and jurors.

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#### Immortals

Friday & Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon thru Thurs		4:25	7:25	

**Henry Cavill, Mickey Rourke, Freida Pinto**  
Epic • Rated R

#### Synopsis

A brave young stonemason assembles a fierce band of warriors to prevent an evil king from acquiring the artifact that will permit him to rule the world in this epic mythological fantasy from visionary filmmaker Tarsem Singh. King Hyperion (Mickey Rourke) is a brutal tyrant on a bloody mission to seek out the mythical Bow of Epirus. Should he succeed, even the Gods of Olympus will be forced to bow before him. In his efforts to locate the invincible and elusive weapon, Hyperion leads his Heraklion army on a brutal rampage across Greece, razing every town in their path, and killing with impunity. When the Hyperions lay waste to his village and cut down his mother in cold blood, vengeful stonemason Theseus (Henry Cavill) emerges from the rubble determined to make the king pay for his crimes.



#### Jack and Jill

Friday & Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon thru Thurs		4:15	7:15	

**Adam Sandler, Katie Holmes**  
Comedy • Rated PG



#### Tower Heist

Friday & Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon thru Thurs		4:00	7:00	

**Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy**  
Crime, Comedy • Rated PG 13



#### A Very Harold and Kumar Christmas

Friday & Saturday		4:10	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon thru Thurs		4:10	7:10	

**John Cho, Kal Penn, Neil Patrick Harris**  
Comedy • Rated R



#### Puss in Boots

Friday & Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon thru Thurs		4:05	7:05	

**Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek**  
Children's/Family • Rated PG



#### In Time

Friday & Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon thru Thurs		4:20	7:20	

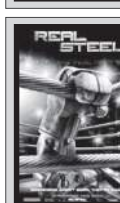
**Justin Timberlake, Amanda Seyfried**  
Thriller • Rated PG 13



#### Paranormal Activity 3

Friday Saturday	1:30	7:30
Sunday	1:30	7:30
Mon thru Thurs		7:30

**Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman, directing**  
Thriller, Horror • Rated R



#### Real Steel

Friday & Saturday	4:30	10:00
Saturday	4:30	10:00
Sunday	4:30	
Mon thru Thurs	4:30	

**Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo**  
Science fiction/Drama • Rated PG 13

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# Another celebrity kicked off of 'Dancing'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Soccer star Hope Solo has been kicked off of "Dancing With the Stars."

Solo was eliminated from the ABC ballroom competition Tuesday after finishing in last place during the semifinal performance round. Dancing for the mirror ball trophy Monday will be actor and Army veteran J.R. Martinez, TV personality Ricki Lake and reality star Rob Kardashian.

"Instead of winning the mirror ball trophy, I'm going to try and win a gold medal this summer at the Olympics," said a smiling Solo, who won gold in the 2008 Olympics, after learning her fate.

She didn't seem quite as happy during Monday's semifinals. In backstage footage shown Tuesday, Solo was seen complaining about her scores and telling the judges, "Kiss my booty."

Solo and professional partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy came into Tuesday's episode with 49 points—nearly 20 points less than first-place finisher Lake.

Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine which contestant is sent home each week.

Each semifinalist performed two routines in addition to



In this Nov. 14, 2011 image released by ABC, soccer player Hope Solo and her partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy perform on the celebrity dance competition series "Dancing with the Stars," in Los Angeles.

competing in a "cha-cha relay," where all four couples danced to the same song.

Kardashian and partner Cheryl Burke won the relay and finished second overall. Lake and partner Derek Hough came in second place during the relay. Martinez

was third and Solo was last.

Solo said Tuesday that "Dancing With the Stars" is "one of the toughest competitions I've ever been a part of."

She joins previously eliminated contestants Nancy Grace, Carson Kressley, David Arquette, Chaz

Bono, Chynna Phillips, Elisabetta Canalis, Metta World Peace (formerly known as Ron Artest) and Kristin Cavallari.

Tuesday's episode also featured an appearance by the Muppets and a performance by Cobra Starship.

## Movie star Brad Pitt visits South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Hollywood star Brad Pitt says he's not worried about getting older.

The 47-year-old actor says he likes aging because of the wisdom that comes with it. He also says he's taking better care of himself because of his six children.

Pitt made the comments Tuesday at a news conference in Seoul. He's visiting South Korea for the first time to promote his new baseball film, "Moneyball."

He arrived in Seoul alone after visiting Japan and Vietnam with Angelina Jolie and their children last week. A long-haired Pitt said he was excited to be in South Korea because Jolie spoke highly of a visit she made last year.

Pitt plans to attend an event scheduled for South Korean fans. "Moneyball" opens in South Korea on Thursday.



Actor Brad Pitt speaks to the media during a press conference of his latest film, "Moneyball," in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011.

## The 'Twilight' wedding gown reveal this Friday

Many brides keep their wedding dresses a secret until the moment they walk down the aisle, but all of cyberspace isn't usually speculating about it. The exception is Bella Swan.

The much anticipated bridal gown will make its debut on Friday as "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn, Part 1" is released in movie theaters.

What's known about the gown worn by Kristen Stewart's character as she married Robert Pattinson's Edward Cullen: It's designed by Carolina Herrera. It has 100 buttons down the back. It's made of lace and satin, and it aims to be simultaneously romantic and mysterious.

"Well, the inspiration be-

came a little bit by the book," said Herrera on the red carpet at the Los Angeles premiere Monday night. "And the description of the book, and the magic and the moment that is the wedding and also about her (Bella's) personality which is very important in a wedding gown. She is this very innocent girl that is believing in her first true love and there is romance and there is fantasy and mystery. Everything so, I took all that into consideration."

Pattinson approved, saying it was a "beautiful" dress and Stewart did it justice. "She looked incredible," he said. "I mean, it's a really sweet scene." (AP)

## Sting debuts free app and pays tribute to Steve Jobs

NEW YORK (AP)—Sting has launched an app for the iPad, and he's not charging for it.

The singer introduced STING 25 in honor of his 25-year solo career at the Apple Store in New York's Upper West Side on Monday. The "Appumentary" is a digital documentary of Sting's career. It features over four hours of music videos, concert footage, interviews and more.

Sting says he's releasing it for free "because we don't know how much it's worth."

The app also has video from Sting's 60th birthday party-concert last month at New York's Beacon Theatre, which featured performances with Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder and Lady Gaga.

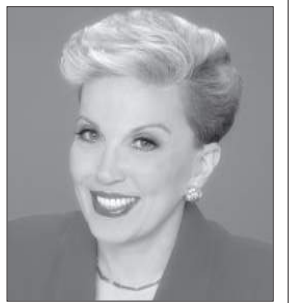
At Monday's event, Sting performed the song "Fragile," dedicating it to Apple co-founder Steve Jobs and saying, "In some way he's created our future."



Sting

## Not every woman is wired to be a mom, readers agree

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

**DEAR ABBY:** It saddened me to read the letter from "Lacks the Mothering Gene" (Sept. 15). Seven months pregnant, she feels nothing for her baby, and her husband is furious with her for feeling as she does.

You told her that she should discuss this with her obstetrician, and you were sure that once the baby arrived she would fall in love with her baby. Not always, Abby. There are, in fact, many situations where mothers DO NOT fall in love with their babies.

I have led pregnancy and postpartum support groups for 20 years, and I would have advised "Lacks" to see someone who is professionally trained in working with women who are psychologically distressed during pregnancy. Sometimes there are multiple, complex reasons why women feel negatively toward their babies, and she needs a place where she can talk about such matters.

I admire her, because in spite of her lack of feelings at this time, she's still determined to be an excellent mother. I have every confidence that with the proper support, she can be.

WILLIAM S. MEYER,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DUKE UNIVERSITY

**DEAR MR. MEYER:** Thank you for lending your expertise and sharing your sound advice. Responses to that letter included testimonies from women wanting "Lacks" to know she was not alone. My newspaper readers comment:

**DEAR ABBY:** My mother found herself pregnant shortly after she and my father were married. She was not happy about it, and it caused a lot of conflict. She made my life unbearable. I think "Lacks" should rethink her options.

It took years of therapy for me to realize I was not to blame for my parents' fights or for everything that was wrong. Mother was a classic narcissist, and her toxic relationship with me didn't end until after her death.

Some women should not be mothers. If they can't be, they should place the child for adoption. That way, the child will have a chance to grow and thrive in a loving environment.

R.P. IN CARMICHAEL, CALIF.

**DEAR ABBY:** I struggled through my son's infant-through-preschool years and forced myself to give up my career to be a stay-at-home mom because I'd been told it was best for him. It was agonizing for me. I wondered if I was defective.

However, now that my son is school-age, I have discovered I am actually a great mom and love spending time with him. What I lacked as a "baby mom," I have more than made up for as a "kid mom." As such, I have returned to the workforce and have no guilt over dropping off my second child—a toddler—at day care.

"Lacks" will find her niche eventually, but she shouldn't beat herself up while she's looking.

REBECCA IN FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a birth doula who assists couples through pregnancies and birth. I don't find every client with a big belly on a pink cloud. I highly recommend a certified birth doula to help through the hard times. They can be found at [www.DONA.org](http://www.DONA.org), the website for the international doula organization. Several doulas can be interviewed in order to find a good fit and one who understands the situation.

BIRTH DOULA IN OREGON

**DEAR ABBY:** I think what "Lacks" is feeling is common. Yet we are never supposed to talk about it. A woman who feels less than jubilant about the responsibilities of motherhood is viewed as unwomanly and selfish. Some women are just not fulfilled being mothers, and there's nothing wrong with that.

I resented motherhood until I began to focus on my children as the amazing people they are. Reluctant moms should get curious about their children, or get involved with a good neighborhood baby group or a parent coach. It helps to have someone to talk to when things get rough.

NEW MOM IN WASHINGTON

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



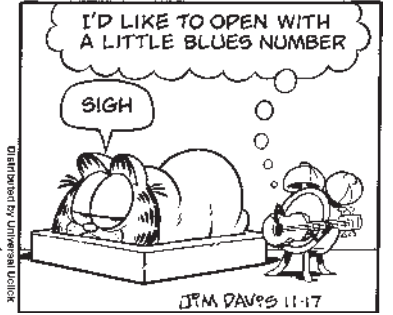
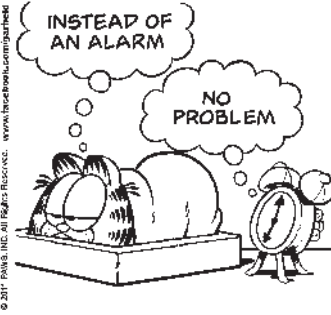
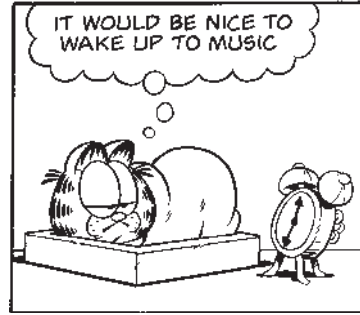
# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

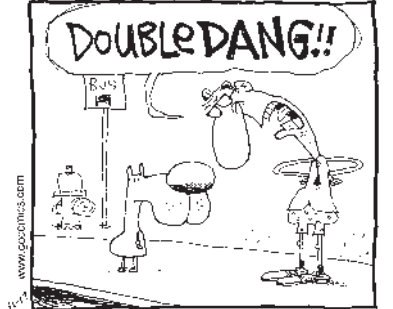


## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Arp's style  
5 Dowel  
8 Medal earner  
12 Memo acronym  
13 Motorists' org.  
14 "Once — a time, ..."  
15 Passenger's payment  
16 "— impossible"  
17 Teeny amount  
18 Activate, as a TV set  
20 Reveille's opposite  
22 Quake follow-up  
26 Characteristic  
29 Spot on a die  
30 Buck's mate  
31 Legacy recipient  
32 Sleepy companion?

**DOWN**

33 Green acres  
34 Always, in verse  
35 Pen name  
36 Do very well  
37 Cologne's cousin  
40 Mosque VIP  
41 Day spa treatment  
45 For this reason  
47 "— not choose to run"  
49 Incite  
50 Thai money  
51 Round Table address  
52 "Piggies"

**DOWN**

1 Crazy  
2 Birthright barterer  
3 Singer Vikki  
4 Outdoor  
5 Emulate  
6 Chow down  
7 Stomach-related  
8 Contemp-tuous  
9 Serialized  
10 Deterio-rate  
11 Individual  
19 Frequent-ly, in verse  
21 Cleo's slayer  
23 Geological time  
24 Heart  
25 Nautical stabilizer  
26 "Take — Train"  
27 Coral structure  
28 Unbreak-able, as an alibi  
32 Send packing  
33 Do  
35 Under-wear with underwire  
36 Longoria or Mendes  
38 Overact  
39 Earlier  
42 Press  
43 On in years  
44 Not as much  
45 Recede  
46 Comic Romano  
48 Conk out

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 11-17**

**POW! IDO**  
**ERGO AVERT**  
**ADORN DINERS**  
**MIXED BLESSTING**  
**STY ELISE BOA**  
**GRUB OARS**  
**TENSE SIDLE**  
**LULU DONE**  
**ALI AMASS MOT**  
**MIXED DEVOTIONS**  
**PITMAN ENDUP**  
**HUINS ACES**  
**ITS DAM**

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5951 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Rachel McAdams, 33; Dylan Walsh, 48; Danny DeVito, 67; Martin Scorsese, 69.

**Happy Birthday:** Keep things simple, to the point and on target and you will reach your goal. Don't allow emotional matters to stand in your way. Your focus must remain on what will help you advance, not others. Too much of anything will become problematic. Moderation is the key to success. Your numbers are 7, 10, 18, 23, 34, 45, 48.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Socialize and have fun, but most of all, enjoy the company of someone special. Love is highlighted, along with being at your very best physically, mentally and emotionally. Spread a little joy around and enhance your reputation. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Don't look for trouble. Meddling will only bring you grief. Put your energy into what you can achieve on your own. Explore, develop and pursue ideas and plans you want to present in the future. Hard work will pay off. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Stick close to home and to the people you care about. Spending time making your place comfortable will benefit you and your family. Love is on the rise, and the reality of where you stand in a relationship will be revealed. ★★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** What you can do for others will help you enhance your reputation and your chances of landing a better position. Your actions will be what

counts when someone of importance tallies up the score. Do your best to satisfy others. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Your charm and diplomacy will bring you good fortune. How you handle the people you work with and for will determine what you can aspire to in the future. Networking will pay high dividends and help you stabilize your position with contractual commitments. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Your anxiety will be easy to detect. Being open will result in some difficulties, but it will also help you deal with a pending problem that has been slowing you down. Face the music, take care of your responsibilities and prepare to move on. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Go where the action is. What you do for others or offer in knowledge and experience will bring you the same in return. Sharing and collaborating will help you get twice as much accomplished and allow you to mix and mingle with interesting people. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't let your heart rule your head, especially when dealing with people you are trying to impress. Do your best to display your skills and talents rather than your thoughts and ideas. Tangible results will be what counts in the end. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't allow anger to stop your progress. Get moving. Take action and show everyone what you are capable of. A change at home will lift your spirits and inspire you to strive for higher goals. Love is in the stars. ★★★★★

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Size up your situation and look over your personal papers. You may want to make some simple but effective changes that will help secure your home and family for the future. Changes to your living arrangements can benefit your overhead. ★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't believe everything you hear. Find out firsthand and stick to what you know is true. You can impress others and convince them to see things your way. Diplomacy and honesty mixed with a little charm will help you get what you want. ★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Someone from your past will play a role in your future. Reach out and ask for help. A partnership, job or friendship can develop due to a kind gesture that reunites you with a person heading in a similar direction. ★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are an intense, engaging and natural leader.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

**Difficulty Level ★★★**

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

6	1	9	8	7	3	2	4	5
8	7	4	2	6	5	1	3	9
5	2	3	4	1	9	8	6	7
7	3	5	1	8	6	9	2	4
9	8	1	5	4	2	6	7	3
2	4	6	9	3	7	5	8	1
3	5	7	6	9	8	4	1	2
1	6	2	3	5	4	7	9	8
4	9	8	7	2	1	3	5	6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**DAGOBERT II** Solution: 9 letters

T S N S E C A R T P O A G P M  
S L R G E X A O H R E N I E E  
A Y A O I U R T D Y I P R N G  
E T E N M E L E H F P O I B R  
F S N B D U R C L E V L U N I  
D A O S B E R U N I D R E C M  
E N R K U A N A N O G R N R O  
D Y H O N R I G O U O I A E A  
O D T O A D I L N L V L O L L  
C S M B R A B D K A E N E U D  
E H G A N T Y L D G R I O R S  
D H U R E W O P E O D I I R  
A G T R A F S N Y E I A E X S  
H O L Y C I D A R O M A N H E  
R O Y A M H L S I G E B E R T

© 2011 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 11/17

Abbey, Amulet, Bloodline, Books, Burgundy, Cathedral, Church, Clues, da Vinci, Decoded, Dynasty, Elder, Exile, Feast, Folklore, Grail, Grimoid, Guardian, Heir, Hoax, Holy, Landen, Legend, Mayor, Merovingian, Monarchy, Myth, Order, Pepin, Pippen, Power, Reign, Religious, Roman, Royal, Ruler, Rumors, Siegbert, Sion, Throne, Trace  
**Yesterday's Answer: Felicity**



# CLASSIFIED ADS



## FOR SALE

**San Vicente**—Eastern side, 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 2 storey, ocean view, 1200 sq. ft, 800 sq. mtr. lot, 50yrs remaining - \$100K



## SOLD

**Capitol Hill** across Department of Commerce, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 800 sq. ft lot +commercial building. New lease \$130K



**Opportunity knocks... BEST OFFER**

Please call Tim at 483-9351 or email [mmtp15@mail.ru](mailto:mmtp15@mail.ru)

### One (1) Assistant Materials Supervisor

**Minimum qualifications:** Associates degree in Engineering Technology (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent) and two years experience in materials testing.

**Duties:** Performs and supervises laboratory and field testing of construction materials such as soils, aggregates, concrete and other related materials. Performs and supervises tests for design mix for concrete and related materials. Reviews and prepares reports of laboratory and field test data of soils, aggregates, concrete and related mixtures. Performs and supervises field samplings of soils, concrete, aggregates and related materials.

If interested, send resume to Geotesting, Inc. by email to [geotesting@geoguam.com](mailto:geotesting@geoguam.com) or by fax at 670-235-5000. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required.

L&T Group of Companies is inviting qualified US workers to apply for:

### Messenger

High school graduate. Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Good oral and written communication skills and good driving skills are required. Must provide and maintain own vehicle for work and must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to [hrd\\_ljt@tanholdings.com](mailto:hrd_ljt@tanholdings.com) not later than November 25, 2011

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

**Grounds Maintenance Worker** (1 Position) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Experience in Grounds Maintenance to include working with various machinery such as Lawnmower & Bushcutter, plus other the Gardening tools such as machete, tree saw, scissor trimmer. Must also have knowledge and experience in plant maintenance, care, and cultivation. Other duties may include some general commercial cleaning plus light carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work as assigned. Must be reliable, dependable, good character & trustworthy. Must have valid CNMI Driver's License. Minimum Wage, No Benefits, Work Holidays and weekends as required. Must be Flexible. Police Clearance Required.

**Building Maintenance Repairer** (3 Positions) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Work Experience as Building Maintenance Repairer to include working with various work tools and machinery necessary for all kinds of building repairs. Must have general knowledge and experience in carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work. Must be reliable and dependable. Have valid CNMI Driver's License Preferred. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

**Commercial Cleaner** (1 Position) – High School Graduate with 5 years experience in Commercial Cleaning. Must be able to maintain floors (Mop, sweep, vacuum), maintain restrooms (Clean and Deodorize), maintain office spaces, collect and dispose of trash, clean windows plus other related duties as assigned. Must be reliable and dependable. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

**Houseworker** (3 Positions) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Experience. Must be well rounded in household duties such as cooking, cleaning, laundry, ironing, & care giving. Duties would be inclusive of cleaning & deodorizing restrooms, cleaning windows, maintaining floors, collecting & disposing of trash. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

**Administrative Assistant** (1 Position) – High School Graduate. College Degree preferred. With 5 years work experience. Duties to include Bookkeeping work, Maintaining Petty Cash Accounts, Receive Cash & Prepare Receipts, Prepare Deposits, Renew Various Licenses and Permits, Maintain Administrative and Business Files, Compile & Prepare BGR Tax Returns, Compile & Prepare Employee Qtrly WH Tax Returns plus Federal 941SS Tax Returns, Prepare Lease Agreements, Prepare Business Correspondence plus other related duties. Must have knowledge and experience with Peachtree Accounting Software. Must have good people skills in addressing customers, clients, & tenants courteously. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage to \$7.50 per hour commensurate with experience. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Please submit resume or job history along with your contact information to Sablan Enterprises, Inc Corporate Office located on the 2nd Floor of Sablan Building Chalan Piao above Subway. Call 234-2585 for more Information.

### FOR SALE



09 Toyota Corolla, Mil. 32,500. Excellent Condition. Price \$11,200. Pls Call 287-7676.

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Condominium for Rent. Anaks Oceanview Resort. 2 brm, 1 bath. Fully furnished. Contact 287-0396.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

### Gentle Care Home Health

**Registered Nurse (1) BSN** – US Lic is required NCLEX, IELTS 6.5 if foreign graduate. Psychiatric and or Substance Abuse background to help promote healthy lifestyle changes. 1 ½ to 2yrs experience in Home Health & has handled 40-50 Px. Computer literate.

**Physical Therapist (2)** – BS graduate 2 years experience, US license.

Submit resume to Gentle Care, Beach Road (beside Rainbow Color) or email at [gentlecaresaipan@gmail.com](mailto:gentlecaresaipan@gmail.com) or at P.O. Box 503795, CK Saipan MP 96950.

Job Vacancy Announcement - Smithbridge Guam Inc.

### (1) Assistant / Quality Control Welding Inspector

Salary: \$25,000 - \$30,000 per annum

**Experience:** Minimum of 10 years of Inspection Work; College degree a plus

**Skills and Qualification:** Certified Welding Inspector or equivalent, Knowledge in ASME IX, other ASME code, ANSI, ASTM, WPS, NDT, Heat Treatment, PWHT, Read and Interpret Welding Symbols and Drawings, Perform ITP and MS for welding. Computer Literate. Able to manage Welding Matrix and Documentation.

**Other Duties:** Knowledge in Piping Inspection and Piping Fit-up and Installation Woks. Flexible to work other discipline as required by the company.

Appointment for Interviews please call: Mr. Graeme Ridley - 01671-8886178  
Email: [graemeridley@smithbridge.com.gu](mailto:graemeridley@smithbridge.com.gu)

*"An Equal Opportunity Employer"*

### JVA Announcement for APIH dba Century Hotel

### Position: (1) Waitress

**Qualifications:** Minimum of 2 years work experience preferably in a hotel, Good customer service, communications and interpersonal skills are required. Willing to work flexible work schedule including nights, weekends and holidays. Duties include serving food and drinks and also preparing mixed drinks for patrons. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent.

Applications can be obtained at Century Hotel, Front Desk. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 21, 2011. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Hotel, Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persona with Disabilities are urged to apply.

### EMPLOYMENT

(1) Butcher: \$5.05/hr. High School graduated. At least three years of experience required. Email resume to [dolim@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:dolim@hanmisaipan.com).

(1) Maintenance and repair Worker, General: \$5.05/hr. Email resume to [mikes@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:mikes@hanmisaipan.com).

(1) Store clerk: \$5.05/hr., (1) Sales Supervisor: \$5.05/hr. Email resume to [kl@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:kl@hanmisaipan.com).

(1) Security Guard: \$5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience as hotel security guard required. Email resume to [changshin@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:changshin@hanmisaipan.com).

(1) Steel Welder and (1) Commercial Cleaner. With 3 years experience. Minimum wage. Must be able to work flexible hours. Email resume to [spclspn@yahoo.com](mailto:spclspn@yahoo.com) no later than Nov. 19, 2011. South Pacific Lumber Co.

YokYung Corporation is looking for (1) General Manager, (1) Bldg. Maintenance Repairer. Preferable Korean speaking. Minimum wage. Please fax resume to 235-7742. Attention: YokYung Corporation.

Rising Star, LLC is looking for (1) Commercial Cleaner. Salary-\$5.05/hr. Please fax resume to 235-7742.

Saipan Hwa Rang Corporation is looking for (1) General Manager – 5

## STYROFOAM

### 4'X8' SHEETS

### TEL.: 287-3700

### WJC MART

Job Vacancy Announcement

### 1 – Fisherman

2 years experience in trolling, diving, and bottom fishing. Interested applicants may submit their resume to P.O. Box 503742 Saipan, MP 96950

### EMPLOYMENT

yrs. experience in Hotel and Construction business. Preferably Japanese, Korean and English speaking. (3) Bldg. Maintenance Repairer – at least 2 years experience, willing to work flexible hours and night time. Interested applicants, please call 287-4488 from 11:00am–4:00pm.

(1) General Maintenance Mechanic—at least 2 years experience in Scuba Diving business. Fax resume to Crow's Nests Corporation at 235-7742.

(1) Bookkeeper at least 2 years work experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Qualified US Workers may fax resume to 235-2231. Island Essence Inc.

(1) Grounds Maintenance Worker at least 3 years work experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Please submit resume with attached copies of driver's license, police and health clearance to Man's Services, LLC P.O. Box 503393 Saipan, MP 96950.

CAD Operator. 5 yrs exp in Public Utilities (water & wastewater) design. ACAD v2012. Send resume to PO Box 5339

3 Managers Wholesale/Retail w/ 3 yrs experience Pls contact Stacy at 2879288 LW Corporation.

(1) Store Manager. Experience in importing musical instruments and commercial goods preferred. Myong Run Corp. 323-2468.

Farmer – 1 year experience \$ 5.05/hr. Send resume to P.O. Box 501555 C.K. Saipan MP 96950

(3) Child Caregiver \$5.05/hr. minimum two years experience in handling kids and CPR Certified. Fax resume to 233-6828. Tender Love Childcare Center

### WHATZIT Solution:

Cocktail stick

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

HOFFSCHNEIDER LAND SURVEYING is a licensed Professional Surveying Company located in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands is currently looking for qualified applicant to fill the following positions:

#### 1 – Surveyor

Successful candidate will have an extensive knowledge of the fundamentals of land surveying using conventional methods and equipments and will have experience in making exact measurements and determining property boundaries. Provide data relevant to the shape, contour, gravitation, location, elevation, or dimension of land or land features on or near the earth's surface for engineering, mapmaking, mining , land elevation, construction, and other purposes.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelors Degree in Surveying or Associate Degree with 5 years experience.
- 5 to 10 years of experience preferred.
- GPS Post Processing experience.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.

#### 1 – Surveyor Technician/Helper

Successful candidate will have experience in performing various types of boundary, right-of-way, topographic, control and construction staking surveys.

Minimum Qualifications:

- High School Graduate
- 3+ years of work experience
- Dependable and Strong Desire to Work Outdoors under Normal to Extreme Conditions.

For consideration, please submit your resume to our office via hand delivered, fax or E-Mail. No Phone Calls or Walk-ins will be accepted. HOFFSCHNEIDER LAND SURVEYING CO. is located on the ground floor of J.E. Tenorio Bldg in Gualo Rai, Garapan. Fax number is (670) 235-8914. E-Mail address is [joehof17@yahoo.com](mailto:joehof17@yahoo.com).

### EMPLOYMENT

1 Scuba Diving Instructor: \$5.05-7.00/hr. College degree and at least 3 years' experience as scuba diving instructor required. Fluency in Korean required.

2 Waiter/Waitress: \$5.05/hr. High school diploma and at least 3 years' experience as waiter/waitress in hotel environment required.

2 Front Office Clerk: \$5.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience as front office clerk in hotel environment required.

1 Housekeeping Cleaner: \$5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience as housekeeping cleaner in hotel environment required.

1 Cook Helper: \$5.05/hr. At least 1 year experience as cook helper required.

1 General Maintenance Worker: \$5.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience as general maintenance worker required.

Email resume to [o2scuba@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:o2scuba@hanmisaipan.com).

1 Commercial cleaner: \$5.05/hr. Minimum 2 years' experience as commercial cleaner. Email resume to [sk@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:sk@hanmisaipan.com).

2 Sales Representative: \$5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience in scuba diving tour or marine sports required. Fluency in Korean and Chinese required. Must be willing to live and work in Tinian. Email resume to [blueocean@hanmisaipan.com](mailto:blueocean@hanmisaipan.com).

(1) Maintenance Repairer, Sal. \$5.05/hr. Min 4yrs exp. Email resume to [jikangahn@gmail.com](mailto:jikangahn@gmail.com) JJ BROTHER CORP #235-4485.

(1) Equipment Technician- 3 years experience. \$5.05/hr. Email resume to [spclspn@yahoo.com](mailto:spclspn@yahoo.com). South Pacific Lumber Co.

### Job Vacancy Announcement

Speedy Turtle Dive Shop is announcing vacancy of Dive Instructor position with wages rate of \$5.05 per hour.

**Job Requirements:**

- hold rating no lower as Certified NAUI Diving Instructor;
- experience in Scuba Diving Instructing at list 5 years;
- to have no less as 1000 registered dives;
- knowledge of scuba diving gear, its maintenance and repair;
- to be familiar with air compressor machinery and have experience in running such machinery;
- to have knowledge and experience in underwater video and photo filming;
- computer skills, including video editing software;
- to know scuba diving, free diving and snorkeling gear in order to run diving gear shop;
- communication skills;
- language skills: English confident;
- Applicant must be legal to work in C.N.M.I.;

Inquires and resume submission via fax 234 6286.

### TOP DEVELOPMENT, INC.

### Job Vacancy Announcement

**(1) Accountant** – At least 7-10 years work experience in general accounting. Must have Bachelors Degree in Accounting. Proficient knowledge in Microsoft Office, Peachtree and QuickBooks accounting software.

Salary: \$9.62-\$11.50 per hour.

Interested Qualified US Workers may submit resume to [ttdi@pticom.com](mailto:ttdi@pticom.com)



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune’s Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

ROOSTER STORY BATON

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

2N Enterprises – Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) **Electrician**, Salary: \$5.05/hr. Installation and repair of wiring, lighting fixtures, power distribution equipment, devices, power systems, controls and relays. Plans layout, installation and service of electrical equipment, raceways and conductors. Measures, cuts, bends and threads and installs all types of electrical conduit using hand, mechanical and hydraulic benders. Blueprint reading and interpretation capabilities required. Plans new and modified installations to minimize waste of material and to maximize performance of systems.

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• Minimum of 10 year business experience including 5 years sales experience in the government sector with a demonstrated record of success  
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• Associates Degree in Business/Related Discipline or Equivalent Work Related Experience  
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• Ability to be flexible with position duties and scope of work  
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• Must be proficient in MS Excel and Peach Tree Accounting Software.  
• Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 19, 2011.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

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• Must be flexible to work specific schedules, weekends, holidays and overtime as necessary  
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**POSITION** : OFFICE MACHINE SERVICER (2)  
**QUALIFICATIONS** :  
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• PC Application proficiency and/or Networking fundamentals  
• Knowledge of digital copiers, MPFs, fax machines, time recorders, cash registers, shredders, printers, typewriters and binding machines  
• Must have good verbal and written communication skills  
• Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

**POSITION** : OFFICE FURNITURE ASSEMBLER (1)  
**QUALIFICATIONS** :  
• 1-2 years of assembly, installation and delivery experience in a retail environment  
• Proficient with basic furniture assembly & installation hand tools (power drill, power screw drivers, power saw, ratchets, wrenches etc.)  
• Must be able to read, understand and follow product assembly and installation instructions of each manufacturer's product line  
• Ability to perform work assignments with little or no supervision  
• Must be flexible to work nights, weekends, holidays, overtime and off-island as necessary  
• Must be able to work in various positions, including, but not limited to, stooping, standing, bending over, sitting, kneeling and squatting for extended periods of time  
• Job will regularly require lifting of 25-80 lbs and moving of large objects  
• Must regularly operate warehouse equipment such as sit-down & stand-up fork lift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment  
• Must regularly drive a delivery truck  
• Ability to be D.O.T. Certified and physically qualified to drive by passing a D.O.T. physical  
• Must have a valid forklift operator certificate  
• Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

**POSITION** : WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR (1)  
**QUALIFICATIONS** :  
• Bachelor's Degree preferred / High School diploma required  
• 2-3 years of successful management experience in distribution / warehouse operation of 5 or more employees  
• Must have a good math, reading and writing skills  
• Must have experience with bar-coded inventory management system  
• Must be computer literate  
• Must have good working knowledge of DDMS Software  
• Must be able to lift 75 lbs on a regular and consistent basis  
• Prior experience operating warehouse equipment such as forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment  
• Must regularly drive a delivery truck  
• Ability to be D.O.T. Certified and physically qualified to drive by passing a D.O.T. physical  
• Must have a valid forklift operator certificate  
• Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

**POSITION** : WAREHOUSE WORKER (2)  
**QUALIFICATIONS** :  
• High School diploma required / equivalent work related experience  
• At least 2 years of warehouse experience, shipping / receiving, order picking and packing duties  
• Must have experience with bar-coded inventory management system  
• Must be computer literate and able to perform basic function and look up inventory  
• Must have good working knowledge of DDMS software  
• Must have prior experience operating warehouse equipment such as forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment  
• Must be able to lift and move 25-50 lbs frequently and up to 80 lbs. occasionally  
• Must be able to stand for duration of the job  
• Must have a valid forklift operator certificate  
• Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

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• Capability to repair all types of problems in masonry construction  
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• Must have the ability to perform a variety of roof repairs  
• Must be able to work in various positions, including, but not limited to, stooping, standing, bending over, sitting, kneeling and squatting for extended periods of time  
• Must be able to lift, pull and push materials and equipment to complete assigned job tasks  
• Must be able to lift 50 lbs of weight frequently throughout assigned workday  
• Must be able to work in precarious or high locations and also be able to climb and descend ladders or scaffolding

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**QUALIFICATIONS** :  
• Associate's Degree Preferred/High School Diploma Required  
• Must have at least 2 years preferably current of product demonstrating and sales experience in a retail environment  
• Must have thorough knowledge of office & school products  
• Strong communication and interpersonal skills  
• Good working knowledge of MS word, excel and DDMS Software  
• Must be able to stand up to six hours

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# NBA players file antitrust lawsuits against league



**NEW YORK (AP)**—Locked-out NBA players including Carmelo Anthony and Kevin Durant filed class-action antitrust lawsuits against the league on Tuesday in at least two states, saying David Stern's ultimatums left them no other choice.

Attorney David Boies, who represented the NFL during that sport's work stoppage and now has been brought aboard by basketball's players, said the NBA lockout violates antitrust laws by refusing to allow players to work.

Boies added that Stern's ultimatum to the now-disbanded union to accept the owners' last economic model or face a harsher proposal "turned out to be a mistake" that strengthens the players' case because it proves that the collective bargaining process had ended.

"If you're in a poker game, and you run a bluff, and the bluff works, you're a hero. If someone calls your bluff, you lose. I think the owners overplayed their hand," Boies said at the players' association headquarters. "They did a terrific job of taking a very hard line and pushing the players to make concession after concession after concession, but greed is not only a terrible thing—it's a dangerous thing."

Dangerous enough to cost the league billions of dollars in damages if players win.

The players are seeking "treble damages"—meaning triple the amount of the more than \$2 billion they would have made under a full 2011-12 season—for what they argue is irreparable harm by preventing them from playing in their "very short" NBA careers.

"We haven't seen Mr. Boies' complaint yet, but it's a shame that the players have chosen to litigate instead of negotiate," NBA spokesman Tim Frank said in a statement. "They warned us from the early days of these negotiations that they would sue us if we didn't satisfy them at the bargaining table, and they appear to have followed through on their threats."

Boies acknowledged that the case could take months, but hoped there would be a settlement before too long.

"Nobody can tell you how long it's going to take. We all know it's possible to delay lawsuits for a while, but I think it is in everybody's interest to try to resolve this promptly," said Boies, speaking on behalf of the California filing. "The longer it goes on, the greater the damages that the teams will face, the greater the damages that the players will suffer, and perhaps most important of all, the longer basketball fans will be deprived of basketball. So we hope that this will move quickly."

He insisted the players have



Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant, center, arrives for a meeting in New York, Monday, Nov. 14, 2011. Player representatives from NBA teams are meeting to discuss the league's proposal for a new labor deal.

shown their willingness to negotiate throughout.

"You can't negotiate by yourself," he said. "You can only negotiate if you've got somebody who's willing to sit down and negotiate with you."

The two suits—one filed in conjunction with the players' association in the Northern District of California and another filed in Minnesota—likely were filed with a favorable venue in mind.

The Minnesota district court has been favorable to the NFLPA during litigation dating to the 1980s. The federal court in San Francisco is under the jurisdiction of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, considered the most liberal of the 13 circuit courts.

The NBA already has filed a pre-emptive lawsuit in New York seeking to prove the lockout is legal and likely would push for cases to be moved there to gain the legal home court.

Though Stern has ridiculed the players' "losing" strategy, Boies said he believes NBA players have a stronger case than NFL players did. Their decertification, he said, could have been argued as a sham because they walked out on the bargaining process before it was technically over and brought litigation. He said Stern's actions left NBA players without options beyond seeking legal relief.

"Here you had an ultimatum from the owners that made absolutely clear that the collective bargaining process was over," he said, adding that Stern's threat is quoted in the

lawsuit. "That's not collective bargaining, and so you have a very distinct set of facts here."

The California filing says that in 2007, Stern met with union negotiators and demanded the players reduce their revenue share from 57 percent to no more than 50 percent and "insisted on a much more restrictive salary cap, which would restrict the market for player services."

Stern threatened at that meeting, according to the lawsuit, that the league was "prepared to lock out the players for two years to get everything" that the NBA owners sought and that "the deal would only get worse after the lockout."

The league locked out its players on July 1. Tuesday marked the 138th day of the lockout and the players' first missed paycheck. The season was scheduled to start Nov. 1, but already games through Dec. 15 have been canceled—a total of 324 or 26 percent of the season.

The league's latest proposal, which was rejected by the players on Monday, called for a reduced 72-game season to start Dec. 15.

Although the NFL was able to get its recent labor dispute resolved quickly enough to lose only one preseason game, the NHL lost the entire 2004-05 season, and the NBA's last work stoppage led to a 50-game season in 1998-99.

Boies said players will not seek a preliminary injunction to lift the lockout. Because the lockout "arguably grew out of prior collective bargaining discussions," Boies said he be-

lieves it would be very difficult to get a court to immediately halt the lockout and such a path would delay the case.

Anthony and Chauncey Billups of the Knicks, NBA scoring leader Durant, rookie Kawhi Leonard and Grizzlies forward Leon Powe were listed as plaintiffs in the complaint filed in conjunction with the players' association in the Northern District of California against the NBA and the owners of its 30 teams. That case has been assigned for now to U.S. Magistrate Judge Donna M. Ryu in Oakland, Calif.

Timberwolves forward Anthony Tolliver, Pistons guard Ben Gordon, free agent forward Caron Butler and Derrick Williams—the second overall draft pick by Minnesota in June who has yet to sign a rookie contract because of the lockout—were listed as plaintiffs in another lawsuit filed against the league and owners in Minneapolis, where NFL players had some level of success in a similar court proceeding this summer.

Boies said there might be other, similar cases to those filed on behalf of NBA players in California and Minnesota. The ideal scenario, he said, would be to bring them all together in the Northern District of California.

The plaintiffs represent various types of players affected by lockout—those under contract, free agents and rookies.

They argue in the Minnesota filing that the lockout "constitutes an illegal group boycott, price-fixing agreement, and/or restraint of trade in violation of

the Sherman Act" and that the owners' final offer for a new CBA would have "wiped out the competitive market for most NBA players."

Boies said the lawsuit was an attempt to restore competitive free-market conditions.

Players made numerous economic concessions and were willing to meet the owners' demands of a 50-50 split of basketball-related income—a transfer of about \$280 million annually from their feeling the league's desires to improve competitive balance would hurt their guaranteed 57 percent under the old deal—but only if the owners met them on their system wishes.

Owners wanted to keep more of the league's nearly \$4 billion in basketball revenues. And they sought a system where even the smallest-market clubs could compete, believing the current system would always favor the teams who could spend the most.

And Boies said it was those owners who put the league in this position.

"If it were up to the players, there would be games being played right now," he said. "There is one reason and one reason only that the season is in jeopardy and that is because the owners have locked the players out and have maintained that lockout for several months."

"If there's not a basketball season, responsibility for that lies in one place and one place only, and that is the NBA and the NBA owners because they're the ones who are keeping the players from playing."

## Coach K alone atop Division I list



**NEW YORK (AP)**—Cheek to cheek, Mike Krzyzewski and Bob Knight

hugged, a player and his coach celebrating a big win—one it's safe to say might never happen again in college basketball.

The man known simply as "Coach K" became Division I's winningest coach when No. 6 Duke beat Michigan State 74-69 on Tuesday night in the State Farm Champions Classic.

The Blue Devils gave Krzyzewski his 903rd win, breaking the tie with Knight, Krzyzewski's college coach at Army and his mentor throughout his professional career.

With Knight sitting across the court at the ESPN broadcast table, and with several former players in the stands—many able to attend because of the ongoing NBA lockout—Krzyzewski moved to the top of the list in front of a sellout crowd of 19,979 at Madison Square Garden.

Krzyzewski went right across the court to hug Knight when the game ended. Krzyzewski, tears in his eyes, broke away, and Knight pulled him back, hands on his shoulders, then there was one final slap of the shoulder.

"I just told Coach I love him," Krzyzewski said. "I wouldn't be in this position without him. It's a moment shared. I know he's very proud, and I'm very proud to have been somebody who's worked under him and studied him and tried to be like him."

"I'm not sure how many people tell him they love him but I love him for what he's done for me and I thanked him. He said 'Boy, you've done pretty good for a kid who couldn't shoot.' I think that means he loves me too. At least that's how I'm taking that."

Junior guard Andre Dawkins had 26 points for Duke (3-0), which took control with a 20-1 run that gave the Blue Devils a 61-41 lead with 9:17 to play. Then it was just a matter of counting down the minutes—except for a late run by Michigan State that made it a five-point game in the final minute—until the celebration could get under way.

It wasn't the Cameron Crazies cheering their coach on after a few nights waiting and sleeping in Krzyzewskiville. But a pro-Duke crowd started to get loud as the Blue Devils took control in the second half, as well as the fans from Michigan State, Kentucky and Kansas and a bunch of regular old New Yorkers including filmmaker and New York Knicks fan Spike Lee.

"The basketball gods are good ... they put two guys who've done a lot in the game together, special moments, and tonight is another one of those special moments," Krzyzewski said of Knight's presence at the historic game.



# Verlander wins AL Cy Young in unanimous vote



**NEW YORK**  
(AP)—Justin Verlander breezed to the AL Cy Young

Award on Tuesday in a unanimous vote after the Detroit Tigers' ace won the pitching version of the Triple Crown.

Verlander dominated the balloting in much the same way he humbled hitters with his 100 mph fastball, sharp curve and wicked slider.

Now, the big question of the baseball awards season: Will he also be chosen the AL MVP next Monday?

"Do I think it's possible? Yes. Would I like to win it? Of course," Verlander said during a conference call from his home in Virginia. "It's kind of a weird scenario."

"Pitchers are on the ballot," he said. Bolstering the case of all pitchers, Verlander pointed to "the tremendous effect we have on the day of our game."

No starting pitcher has won the honor since Roger Clemens in 1986, with Dennis Eckersley the last reliever to get it in 1992. Many observers say pitchers shouldn't win the MVP, period, contending they already have their own award. Verlander's year, though, has ratcheted up the debate in a crowded MVP field that includes Curtis Granderson, Jacoby Ellsbury, Jose Bautista, Miguel Cabrera and more.

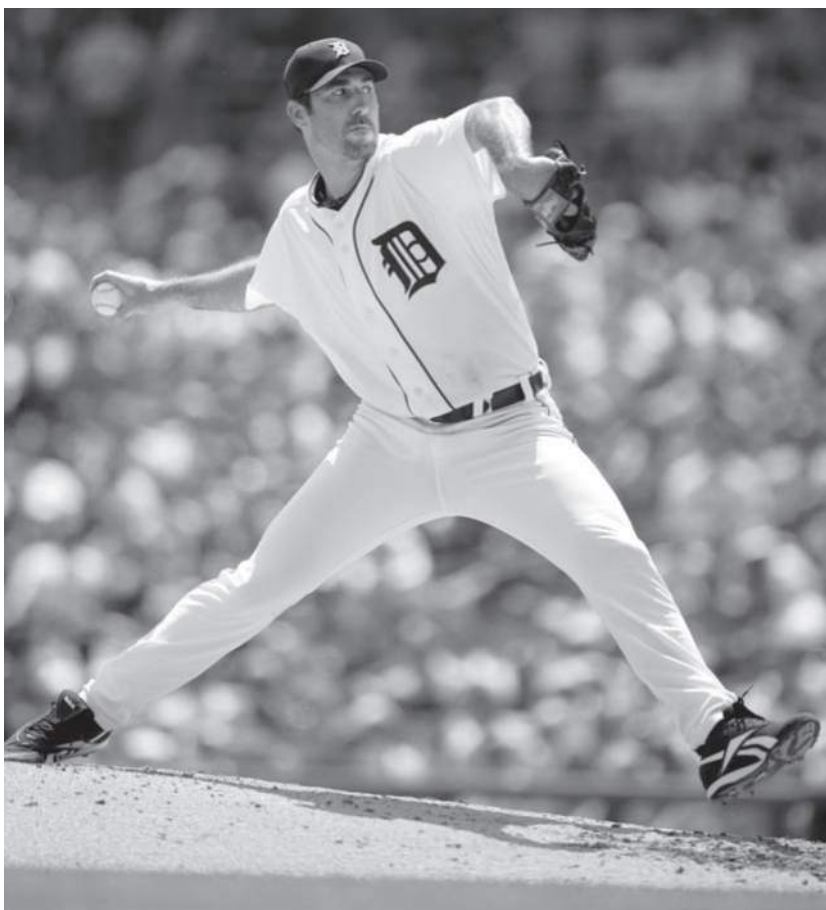
Verlander led the majors in wins by going 24-5 and topped baseball with 250 strikeouts. His 2.40 ERA was the best among AL pitchers who qualified for the title.

Verlander drew all 28 first-place votes in balloting by members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America and finished with 196 points.

Jered Weaver (18-8, 2.41) of the Los Angeles Angels was the only other pitcher listed on every ballot and second with 97 points. James Shields of Tampa Bay was third with 66, followed by CC Sabathia of the New York Yankees with 63. Tigers reliever Jose Valverde, who was perfect in 49 save chances, was fifth with 28.

Verlander pitched his second career no-hitter, won 12 straight starts down the stretch and helped the Tigers take the AL Central, their first division title since 1987.

In many games, the 28-year-old righty was simply unhittable. He pitched a no-



In this July 31, 2011 file photo, Detroit Tigers starter Justin Verlander pitches against the Los Angeles Angels in the seventh inning of a baseball game, in Detroit. AP

hitter on May 7 at Toronto, missing a perfect game just by an eighth-inning walk on a full-count delivery.

In his next start, he held Kansas City hitless for 5 2-3 innings. Johnny Vander Meer is the only pitcher to throw back-to-back no-hitters.

Later in the season, the 6-foot-5 star took a pair of no-hit bids into the eighth inning - one of those came on July 31 against Weaver and the Angels, a 3-2 win at Detroit.

"I felt like it was a statement game," Verlander said. "A lot of people had eyes on that game."

Verlander also led the majors with 251 innings, all while issuing a career-low 57 walks. He pitched four complete games, including two shutouts.

This was the ninth time there was a unanimous winner of the AL Cy Young and first since Johan Santana in 2006, when he won the AL pitching Triple Crown. This was the fourth time a Detroit pitcher won it, with Denny McLain earning the award in 1968 and tying for

the honor in 1969, and reliever Willie Hernandez winning in 1984.

McLain, in 1968, and Hernandez went on to win the AL MVP awards, too.

A four-time All-Star, Verlander became the first former AL Rookie of the Year to also take the Cy Young. This win included a \$500,000 bonus to his \$12.75 million salary in 2011.

The only thing missing from Verlander's pitching resume is a World Series title. He is 3-3 with a 5.57 ERA in eight career postseason starts, and went 2-1 in the playoffs this year as the Tigers reached the AL championship series before losing to Texas.

Clayton Kershaw of the Los Angeles Dodgers is the favorite to win the NL Cy Young when the results are released Thursday. He won the NL pitching Triple Crown, leading with a 2.28 ERA and 248 strikeouts and tying for wins at 21.

The AL and NL Managers of the Year will be announced Wednesday.

## Kimbrel and Hellickson chosen rookies of the year

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Spotless through the summer, Craig Kimbrel struggled in the stretch. The newest NL Rookie of the Year intends to learn from a particular late-season blemish.

The Atlanta Braves' closer unanimously won the award Monday, with Tampa Bay pitcher Jeremy Hellickson emerging from a talented crop to take the AL honor.

"It definitely did surprise me," Kimbrel said on a conference call from his vacation in Hawaii. "I expected it to be close."

The AL Cy Young Award will be announced Tuesday. Detroit ace Justin Verlander is expected to easily win.

"He's the best pitcher in the game," Hellickson said.

Kimbrel set a major league record for saves by a rookie with 46. He earned all 32 first-place votes in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America and outpointed Braves teammate Freddie Freeman.

The hard-throwing righty was dominant for much of the year and chosen as an NL All-Star during his streak of 38 straight appearances without allowing a run. But that string ended in mid-September and the 23-year-old Kimbrel was wobbly as the Braves frittered away a 10 1/2-game lead in the NL wild-card race.

Kimbrel's eighth blown save of the year came in the final game of the season, when he walked three, gave up a hit and allowed the tying run in the ninth inning against Philadelphia. The Phillies went on to win in the 13th, costing the Braves a spot in a one-game playoff against St. Louis for the wild-card slot.

"I blew many saves throughout the year. It just so happened that one came in the last game of the year with everything on the line," he said. "My control was not there, I was all over the place."

"I'm going to get over it, but I'm not going to forget it," he said. "I need to fix it."

Kimbrel struck out 127 in only 77 innings and anchored Atlanta's outstanding bullpen, pitching 79 games. He was 4-3 with a 2.10 ERA, and his long scoreless span covered 37 2-3 innings.

"I did learn that the season is long," he said.

Kimbrel wound up tied for Milwaukee's John Axford for the NL lead in saves. He became the 10th unanimous NL rookie winner, and first since Albert Pujols in 2001. Kimbrel was the seventh Braves player to win the award that began in 1947, and first since Rafael Furcal in 2000.

"There's a lot of room for improvement," Kimbrel said.

Kimbrel, who pitched 21 games in 2010 but still retained his rookie eligibility by throwing under 50 innings, earned 160 points in the BBWAA balloting. Freeman, who hit .282 with 21 home runs and 76 RBIs, was second with 21 second-place votes and 70 points. Kimbrel and Freeman became the first pair of teammates to finish 1-2 in the NL

rookie voting since Cubs outfielders Jerome Walton and Dwight Smith in 1989.

Philadelphia pitcher Vance Worley was third and Washington catcher Wilson Ramos was fourth. Ramos was kidnapped in Venezuela last week and freed Saturday when commandos raided the mountain hideout where he was being held.

Hellickson went 13-10 with a 2.95 ERA in helping the Rays take the AL wild-card spot. He drew 17 of 28 first-place votes and finished well ahead of Los Angeles Angels first baseman Mark Trumbo.

"It's something I really wanted to win," Hellickson said on a conference call from his home in Iowa. He said there were "three or four guys" equally deserving of the award.

The 24-year-old Hellickson was a big reason the Rays were able to erase a nine-game deficit against Boston in the last 3 1/2 weeks to win the AL wild-card spot. He was unbeaten in five starts against AL East teams in the final month, and finished 7-3 in games against division rivals.

On the next-to-last day, he kept the Rays close against the visiting New York Yankees. On his final pitch of the regular season, Hellickson got Russell Martin to ground into a triple play with the bases loaded, and the Rays went on to win.

Hellickson, incidentally, has a Yorkshire terrier called Jeter—as in, Yankees star Derek Jeter. Hellickson's dad was a big Reggie Jackson fan, and the dog wound up with the name.

Hellickson is generously listed at 6-foot-1, but held up extremely well over 29 starts. He led all big league rookies in ERA, innings (189) and opponents' batting average (.210).

He became only the second AL starting pitcher to win the award in 30 years, along with Verlander in 2006. Hellickson's ERA was the best for qualifying AL rookies since Kevin Appier's 2.76 in 1990.

"I've believed in myself and had all the confidence in the world in myself," he said.

Like Kimbrel, Hellickson's final outing was rocky. Against Texas in Game 4 in the opening round of the AL playoffs, he gave up a leadoff home run to Ian Kinsler and two homers to Adrian Beltre and left after four innings as the Rangers clinched the series.

Hellickson, who went 4-0 in 10 for the Rays in 2010, joined Evan Longoria (2008) as Tampa Bay players to win the AL rookie honor. Hellickson finished with 102 points.

Trumbo drew five first-place votes and 63 points. Eric Hosmer, who hit .293 with 19 home runs and 78 RBIs after being called up by Kansas City in May, got four first-place votes and 38 points. Ivan Nova, 16-4 with a 3.70 ERA for the Yankees, got one first-place vote and was fourth with 30. Seattle second baseman Dustin Ackley drew the other first-place vote.

## Leinart gets his chance with Texans in need



**HOUSTON** (AP)—Matt Leinart had a quick chat with Andre Johnson before leaving the Texans' locker room on Tuesday to catch a flight home to Southern California.

When he returns next week, Leinart will have a first-place team to lead and Johnson should be healthy enough to help him.

Leinart will be the Texans' starting quarterback in the first game after their bye, at Jacksonville on Nov. 27, because Matt Schaub is out indefinitely with what coach Gary Kubiak termed a "significant" right foot injury.

"I've just got a job to do, be efficient and get the guys and this team in the right situation," Leinart said. "I'm extremely bummed for Matt, just because of what he's put into this organization and to get us to this point. At the same time, it's opportunity for myself to step up."

It could be Leinart's job for the rest of the season.

Kubiak said Tuesday that Schaub

will undergo testing and his status will be determined next week. Schaub said on his weekly appearance on KILT-AM Tuesday that if surgery is deemed necessary, he'll "probably" be out the rest of the season.

"I'm not one to give in to something like this that easily," Schaub said. "It doesn't look good. My foot is pretty much the size of a cinder block right now."

Johnson, meanwhile, is expected to return for the Jacksonville game after sitting out six weeks with a right hamstring injury. And that's a comforting notion to Leinart, who hasn't started a game since 2009, when he was with Arizona.

"It's a great offense to be a part of," Leinart said, "and now we get the best receiver in the NFL back, which is awesome to have. That's going to be great."

Even without Johnson, Houston (7-3) has managed to take control of the AFC South. Arian Foster and Ben Tate both rank among the league's top 10 rushers, and the Texans' top-ranked defense has held opponents to an aver-

age of 10.5 points during a four-game winning streak.

Leinart had dinner with Schaub on Monday night to go over details and try to make the transition as seamless as possible. Leinart also made Schaub a promise.

"I told Matt that I was going to make him proud and just win games for this team," Leinart said, "because he got us to this point."

Given how the Texans have run the ball and shut down opponents over the past month, Leinart doesn't feel as if he has to do anything miraculous.

"It's important for me not to feel like I have everything to put on my shoulders, and just go out there and manage the game," Leinart said. "You look at the numbers in the last couple of games, Matt (Schaub) has just gotten us into the right plays, and he's thrown the ball here and there, and we've won the games the old-fashioned way."

"That's all I'm asked to do, and I'm excited about that opportunity."



# Mixed Blood Shooters 1 leads A Division by game

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



D'Pirates Bar's Mixed Bloodshooters 1 moved into the top spot of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's A Division after the conclusion of Monday's matchups.

Mixed Blood was sharing first place with Oleai's Celebrity coming into Monday's pairings, but now sits alone in the driver's seat after an 11-6 road victory over Ali'i Kamote's at Naked Fish Bar & Grill.

Mixed Blood improved its win-loss to 146-92, while Ali'i Kamote's fell to 125-113.

As for Celebrity (145-93), it defeated D'Pirates' Predators (119-119), 10-7, to remain hot on the trail.

In other results, Bar Gaia's Gaiana-A edged out Naked Fish's Naked Fish Boyz, 9-8, at home and D'Pirates' Bud Brothers defeated Oleai's Primos, 10-7, in a home match.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

D'Pirates Bar's Try Luck, seen here in a file photo, defeated runner-up Man-Amigas in a road match at Jonny's Bar & Grill to improve to a 174-36 record in the A Division of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association.



## HYATT

From Page 28

Hyatt held PSS scoreless in the last 41.4 seconds of the game, forced two turnovers, and then went 6-for-8 from the foul line to end the latter's winning run. PSS, which won four straight games, dropped to a 5-2 record and slid from second to a share of third place with Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and defending champion Pacific Islands Club/NVM. Hyatt is in the middle of the pack with a 3-4 card.

PSS fell behind in the majority of the game, but found itself on top, 73-72, after Dave Sablan's triple, less than a minute left in the match. PSS

had a chance to stretch the lead when it regained possession after a Hyatt miss. However, Bernard Aquino swiped the ball away from a driving Walter Mendez.

Raymark Castro picked up the loose ball and fed Mike Umali on a fastbreak layup. Umali was a few steps ahead of his defender, but muffed the easy shot. Fortunately he got the rebound for a follow-up attempt and was fouled. Umali made both charities, giving the lead back to Hyatt, 74-73, 22.8 seconds to go in the game.

A Sablan miss and stepping violation returned the leather to Hyatt and in the inbound play, Jun Alipio wisely threw a long pass to Christian Devero, avoiding PSS' backcourt pres-

sure defense. Devero caught the ball and PSS' Marlon Cabrera was called for an unsportsman-like foul as he held down the ball away from a driving Walter Mendez. Devero drilled both charities and Hyatt regained possession. Aquino added another free throw for a 78-73 cushion, with less than 10 seconds left on the clock and had another split to peg the final score after Sablan faltered on his triple and was forced to foul the former.

Devero paced Hyatt with 27 points, while James Villacrusis led PSS with 25 markers.

## DFS Galleria 82, Shirley's 71

In the second game of the night, DFS Galleria is back on the win

column after beating Shirley's.

DFS, which bowed to PSS in its previous match, did a great job protecting its lead in the fourth quarter to deny Shirley's back-to-back wins and improve to a 6-2 record for solo second place behind Mobil (6-1). Shirley's which notched its first win last Sunday after a 90-76 victory over Grillin', fell to a 1-6 record and is in danger of not making it to the eight-team playoffs.

Shirley's trailed early, 9-24, but made a big second-half rally, outscoring DFS in the last five minutes of that period, 20-4, to move within four at the break, 34-38. Then Shirley's even grabbed the upper hand early in the third period, 45-44, off Wowie Abuel's tri-

ple before DFS regrouped and closed the quarter with a 62-54 advantage. Dan Barcinas and Gabriel White saved DFS in the third, combining for 15 markers.

Barcinas went cold in the fourth, but Pete Iguel was there to keep DFS in control. Iguel scored five straight markers in the closing minutes to bring DFS' lead back to double digits, 79-68, with less than three minutes left on the clock.

DFS hung in there, as Shirley's only scored a triple in the remaining 2:46 of the match. Iguel led DFS with 16, while J.R. Barrios tallied 24 in the loss. Kae Bernardo also finished in double figures for Shirley's with 11, but had lim-

ited touches in the second half and was scoreless.

Man-Amigas fell to 130-80, but is still comfortably in second place and ahead by 27 games over Joe's Steakhouse's Just Like That (103-107), which downed D'Pirates' Star Magic (70-140), 11-4, on the road.

Meanwhile, Jonny's Island Girls (94-116) defeated Joe's Daffodils (59-151), 11-4, in a road match.

Man-Amigas' Rita Fitial posted a High-In 152, while Try Luck's Aida Laniyo marked a High Out 118 in their respective matches.

Moreover, Try Luck's Laniyo, Matrina Lisua, and Rufina Guevarra are ranked first, second, and third in the individual statistics in the 38-player field.

## First Game

**Hyatt Hotel 79** – Devero 27, Aquino 15, Castro 12, Mateo 11, Umali 8, Durant 4, Alipio 2.

**PSS 73** – Villacrusis 25, Sablan 22, Fitial 10, Itibus 5, Mendez 4, Cabrera 4, Palacios 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 23-16, 38-32, 61-50, 79-73.

## Second Game

**DFS Galleria 82** – Iguel 19, Lizama 14, Guiab 14, White 12, Barcinas 9, Johnson 8, Jung 6.

**Shirley's 71** – Barrios 24, Peredo 13, Usi 12, Bernardo 11, Sedillo 6, Abuel 5.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-9, 38-34, 62-54, 82-71.

## CLOSE

From Page 28

12, 21-15.

One of the two singles matches also went the distance with Malasarte outclassing Lucille Lampera in the women's singles, 21-16, 17-21, 21-9. The Berks Blazers took

the other singles match with Ferdie Arago sweeping Jerry Hibi, 21-9, 21-11.

The losing club got off to a good start in the pairing when Aguda and Wowie Abuel prevailed in the first match, outlasting Hibi and Chris Hilario. Aguda and Abuel dropped the first game in the men's doubles A, 19-21, but eked out the

come-from-behind win after ruling the last two games, 23-21, 21-16.

In the women's doubles A, the Berks Blazers also finished on top with Quiambao and Marlene Peraja easily defeating Malasarte and Fernandez, 21-15, 21-12.

In the mixed doubles A, Arago got his second win when he

joined forces with Lanie Bartolome in sweeping Ezekiel Macario and Samonte, 21-7, 21-11. The Berks Blazers went 2-1 in the mixed doubles as siblings Wowie Abuel and Lanie Bartolome triumphed over Labuson and Glenn Buljenns in mixed doubles B.

Only the Berks Blazers-Shirley's and TAGA-Golden

Racquet pairings were completed last weekend, while Saipan Badminton Club and TAGA finished only three matches.

SBC swept the first three games with Oh Imbog and Pastor Kok Pang winning the initial pairing after cruising to a 21-17, 21-11 victory over Jerry Tan and Rodwealth Espana in the

men's doubles B. In the men's doubles C, Joel Ortega and Oh An Yeol survived Luis Camacho and Panapa Peteru, 14-21, 21-15, 21-14, while Kim Boranah and Lee Yun Yee edged Elna Curate and Rose Lazaro in the women's doubles C, 18-21, 21-12, 21-18.

Action in the team tournament will resume this weekend.

## PROA

From Page 28

ened up its defense in the second quarter and turned the tables on its rival, 36-32, at halftime.

Proa's Marvin Rabauliman tallied 10 of his team's 14 points in the second quarter. Eight different Blue Haus players, meanwhile, had a hand on the offensive end.

Blue Haus kept it rolling after the break and stretched its lead to eight, 56-48, heading into the final period. Blue Haus contin-

ued its generous ball distribution, as eight different players again accounted for their points in the third quarter.

Rabauliman came alive with 15 points in the clutch as his team rallied for the lead midway through the fourth quarter, but Blue Haus' Elgene Mangali buried three treys to keep his team in range.

Blue Haus did a good job using up its fouls to stop the clock and with the ball and less than 10 seconds on the clock had trimmed the deficit to one possession.

In the end, Blue Haus chose

to go inside in an effort to force overtime, and managed a good look at the basket, but could not get it to fall.

To its credit, Proa made just enough free throws to escape with the win and Blue Haus struggled all game to find an answer for Rabauliman who led all scorers with 32 points.

Mangali, for his part, unloaded 15 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter for Blue Haus.

In the nightcap, Konflikt-IT&E extended its unbeaten streak to three with an 85-75 victory over

FGC, which dropped its second straight game to fall to 2-2.

Konflikt-IT&E's Elmer Esdrelon heated up early and drained a trio of 3-pointers that shot his team in front, 22-12, in the first quarter.

FGC mounted a comeback in the second quarter as Lerio Pagarao delivered eight markers. However, IT&E's Wowie Abuel and Jawn Joyner teamed up for 11 points that helped their team take a five-point margin, 42-37, at the half.

Esdrelon returned to the floor

after the break and added nine more points as his team worked out a 64-55 advantage heading into the final period.

He would add another nine points in the fourth quarter as IT&E buried seven free throws to secure the win.

Esdrelon led all scorers with 27, while FGC's Pagarao managed 19 in the loss.

## First Game

**Proa 85** – Rabauliman 32, Iguel 20, Lizama 15, Johnson 11, Mendiola 4, J. Sablan 2, Norita 1.

**Satbahi/Blue Haus 83** – Mangali 19, Talanía 15, De Dios 10, Peredo 8, Barbo 7, Camacho 6, Aquino 5, Manalo 5, Guiab 4, Inos 2, C. Sablan 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-17, 32-36, 48-56, 85-83.

## Second Game

**Konflikt 85** – Esdrelon 27, Joyner 15, Devero 13, Sablan 10, Abuel 9, Berline 4, Barrios 2, Tamayo 2, Metran 1.

**FGC 75** – Pagarao 19, Basila 17, Bernardo 14, Babautia 11, Yabut 6, David 4, Gamboa 2, Santos 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-12, 42-37, 64-55, 85-75.

## RETURNEES

From Page 28

Fast, a former member of Italian cycling team G.S. 93 OFZ FAAC Electromatic and was among the favorites when he debuted in the biggest bike race on Saipan, hopes to redeem himself next month after a fourth-place finish (3:03:01.72) last year.

Wood will be a first-timer in next month's race, but he is a

14-year road veteran and was a member of the Queensland Track National Team for three years (2006 to 2008) and the 2008 Track Pursuit Team.

The 27-year-old biker now races for Cycling Queensland's Team Budget Forklifts and his impressive resume also includes victories in the 2009 Rockhampton Cup on Wheels and 2009 Townsville Cup on Wheels, stints with a Dutch team competing in road races in Africa, Europe, the

U.S., and Asia. The Aussie pro was also crowned champion in the Ambruzzo Cup three times (2006, 2008, 2009) and was named Queensland Cyclist of the Year in 2010.

Anderson's credentials were as rich as his compatriot. Early this year, he suited up for Britain's Endura Racing Team and placed fifth in the Australian Individual Time Trial Championships and won the first leg of the Czech Cycling Tour in July.

From Europe, he returned

to the Land Down Under and joined the Australian National Team that raced in the Jayco Herald Sun Tour. The 24-year-old pro also raced for an Italian amateur team, the U.S. Fracor, in 2008 and was member of the Australian Pro Continental Squad Team Budget Forklifts in 2009, topped the Oceania U23 Time Trial Championships, and raced in Belgium, and World Championships in Mendrisio, Switzerland the same year. In 2010, he was

runner-up to Cameron Meyer in the Australian Open ITT Championships.

Anderson and other off-island bikers are expected to arrive on Saipan several days before the race kicks off. Registration for the Dec. 3 race is on going and will last only until Nov. 25. Cash prizes will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in the solo men's and women's races.

To register or for more information, contact PIC frontend at 237-5148.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES		
LOCAL SCORES		
<b>Shirley's Standings</b>		
Mobil	6	1
DFS	6	2
PSS	5	2
Fiesta	5	2
PIC	5	2
Hyatt	3	4
Wushin	2	5
Grillin'	1	5
Shirley's	1	6
GPPC	1	6



# 2011-2012 COPSSA Volleyball League

PHOTOS By  
ROSELYN B. MONROY



The Grace Christian Academy Eagles are all smiles after receiving the championship trophy in the junior varsity division of the 2011-2012 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League at the Mt. Carmel School Gymnasium early this month.



Members of the junior varsity division third placer Saipan International School pose with their trophy.



Saipan International School's Jehn Joyner, right, goes up for a spike against Grace Christian Academy's Dae Min Jeon.



Saipan International School's Emily Jones stops the ball.



Members of junior varsity division runner-up Whisperings Palms pose for a group photo.



Saipan International School's Daniel Lim in action at the net.



Grace Christian Academy's Josiah Trinidad receives a serve.



A Calvary Christian Academy player serves during their semis game in the varsity division against Grace Christian Academy.



Grace Christian Academy's James Libut leaps high for a kill during their varsity division title game against Saipan International School.



Grace Christian Academy's Jonathan Libut stretches for a return during their semis game in the junior varsity division against Saipan International School.





**Verlander wins  
AL Cy Young in  
unanimous vote**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

28 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2011

**NBA players  
file antitrust  
lawsuits  
against league**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Hyatt squeaks past PSS/McGraw-Hill

Hyatt's Remart Castro pulls up for a long jumper during the closing seconds of their game against PSS/McGraw-Hill in the Shirley's last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**H**yatt Regency Saipan showed poise in the homestretch to eke out a 79-73 victory against PSS/McGraw-Hill during their game in the 3rd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. **See HYATT on Page 26**

## 2 returnees, Aussie pros topbill 'Hell'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Defending champion Joon Yong Seo of Korean will return to Saipan to go for back-to-back men's division titles in the Annual Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race set for Dec. 3.

The Korean biker will be defending his championship against fellow "Hell" returnees Konstantin Fast of Russia, Australian pros Matthew Wood and John Anderson, and a bunch of local riders.



Seo was the top finisher's in last year's race, completing the 100-kilometer around the island course in 3:02:52.41 and passing the 2009 winning time (3:03:25.88) of Russia's Alexander Bagenov. The 2010

champion defeated Australia's Malcolm Rudolph (3:03:52.91) and Asian Games veteran and compatriot Suk Yoon Choi of Korea (3:03:54.06). This year, besides defending the men's title, the 24-year-old Korean rider aims to break the "Hell" record time of 3:02:22 former Saipan resident, Eli Torgeson, posted in 2008.

**See RETURNEES on Page 26**

## Close win for Shirley's BC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Shirley's Badminton Club pulled off a tough 17-16 victory over the Berks Blazers in the other opening week pairing in the 5th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

Shirley's BC prevailed in six of the 11 events played in Week 1 with four of them coming via sweeps. The pairs of Sam Jones and Joseph Santos, Brandon Taliana and Jexler, Windy Fernandez and Roma Barlaio, and Taliana and Barlaio delivered straight game victories for Shirley's, while the two other wins came from the duo of Jaja Samonte and Elma Labuson and singles player Malou Malasarte.

Jones and Santos swept the Berks Blazers' Saul Gargallo and Gerry Balarao in the men's doubles B, 21-18, 21-13, while Taliana and Jexler played in the men's doubles C and finished off Roman Caracut and Rommel Bartolome early, 21-12, 21-10. Taliana earned his second victory after teaming up with Barlaio in downing Ylac Caracut and Jane Tupaz in the mixed



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shirley's Badminton Club's Joseph Santos goes for a backhand return during his and Sam Jones' game against Berks Blazers' Saul Gargallo and Gerry Balarao in the men's doubles B division of the Traders Insurance team tournament last weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

doubles C, 21-17, 21-15.

Barlaio played in the women's doubles C with Fernandez and they won over Tupaz and Arlene Naquit, 21-6, 21-5. In the women's doubles B, Samonte and Labuson needed three games to thwart Lot Abuel and Annette Quiambao, 18-21, 21-

**See CLOSE on Page 26**

## Proa holds off Satbahi, Konflikt prevails again

Proa's Marvin Rabauliman splits the defense of Satbahi-Blue Haus during their Garapan Basketball League -IT&E Cup matchup last Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



Proa held off Satbahi/Blue Haus, 85-83, in the opener of Monday's Garapan Basketball League IT&E Cup double feature held at

the Garapan Basketball Court.

Proa improved its win-loss record to 3-1, while Blue Haus is still winless in two tries.

Pete Iguel paced Proa with seven points in the opening 10 minutes as his team managed an early 18-17 lead.

Blue Haus, however, tight-

**See PROA on Page 26**